

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4800
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
CULTIVATION OF BIO-FUEL CROPS
Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

The details of the policy framed for cultivation of bio-fuel crops in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

As per the national policy on bio-fuel brought out by Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, details for cultivation of bio-fuel crops in the country are as follows:

- (a) Plantations of trees bearing non-edible oilseeds will be taken up on Government/ Community wasteland, degraded or fallow land in forest and nonforest areas. Contract farming on private wasteland could also be taken up through the Minimum Support Price mechanism proposed in the Policy. Plantations on agricultural lands will be discouraged.
- (b) There are over 400 species of trees bearing non-edible oilseeds in the country. The potential of all these species will be exploited, depending on their techno- economic viability for production of biofuels. Quality seedlings would be raised in the nurseries of certified institutions/organizations identified by the States for distribution to the growers and cultivators.
- (c) In all cases pertaining to land use for the plantations, consultations, would be undertaken with the local communities through Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas, and with Intermediate Panchayats and District Panchayat where plantations of non-edible oil seed bearing trees and shrubs are spread over more than one village or more than one block/taluk. Further, the provisions of PESA would be respected in the Fifth Schedule Areas.
- (d) Employment provided in plantations of trees shrub bearing non-edible oilseeds will be made eligible for coverage under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programmed (NREGP).