

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5278
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010
WORLD BANK STUDY ON BIO-FUELS
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether World Bank study has revealed that bio-fuels are responsible for hike in food prices that has pushed hundred million people below poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the impact of bio-fuels in India; and
- (d) the steps being taken to increase food production to bring the food price at reasonable level?

Answer

Minister of State for Finance (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No study has been yet conducted on `impact of bio-fuels in India` by Government of India.
- (d) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has been implementing various crop development programmes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi . Vikas Yojna, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Maize and Oilpalm (ISOPOM), Integrated Cereal Development Programme for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals, etc., for increasing the production and productivity of food grains in the country. Besides, new schemes of extending the Green Revolution to Eastern regions of the country and organizing 60,000 `Pulses and Oilseed Villages` have been initiated during 2010-11 to tap the potential of eastern Indian states for enhancing agriculture production and promotion of mechanization in watershed area for enhancing the productivity of the dry land farming areas respectively. Minimum Support Prices are declared every year for various crops to ensure remunerative prices to the growers with a view to encourage higher investment and production.