

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3822

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009

WORKING GROUP FOR PLANT SAPPLINGS ON VACANT LAND

Bavalia Shri Kuarjibhai Mohanbhai;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Sharma Shri Madan Lal;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have set up a Joint Working Group for plant sapplings on the vacant land along the rail lines in order to produce bio-diesel from the seeds of plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether bio-diesel is likely to be cost-effective and environment friendly;
- (d) if so, the details thereof? and
- (e) the progress of the Research and Development (R&D) studies conducted in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) & (b): No, Madam. Indian Railways, however, is exploring the possibilities for plantation of Jatropha trees along the Railway track.
- (c) & (d): Do not arise.
- (e): RDSO, Lucknow has undertaken testing of bio-diesels. It has been found that B 10 Blend i.e. 10% bio-diesel in HSD oil can be used on our existing diesel engines without need for any major modification.