

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3978
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011
BIO-DIESEL PROGRAMME
Devi Aswamedh

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for bio-diesel programme in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Bihar; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b): The National Policy on Biofuels, notified by the Govt. of India in December 2009, has inter-alia, laid down detailed guidelines for promotion of production of bio-diesel for blending with high speed diesel. According to the National Policy, the indicative target for biodiesel blending by the year 2017 is 20%. The main components of the National Biofuels Policy regarding bio-diesel are as follows:

- Bio-diesel production will be taken up from non-edible oil seeds in waste/degraded/marginal lands.
- Major thrust on research, development and demonstration with focus on plantations, processing and production of Biofuels;
- Minimum Purchase Price (MPP) for purchase of Bio-diesel with periodic revision to be fixed;

(c): The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) announced a bio-diesel purchase policy effective from 1.1.2006. As per this policy, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) would buy bio-diesel at a uniform landed price which is reviewed from time to time. The price of bio-diesel effective from June 26, 2010 is Rs 29.50 per litre. The OMCs are to purchase bio-diesel for blending with high speed diesel at 20 identified Purchase Centres across the country. The present target for bio-diesel blending is indicated as 5%. Intensive Research and Development on development and cultivation of improved varieties of Jatropha has been taken up by various concerned Ministries and Departments such as Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Bio-technology, etc..