

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3039  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011  
USE OF RICE HUSK  
Ramasubbu Shri S.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that rice husk is used as an alternative cooking fuel in restaurants and eateries and in some places they are simply dumped or burnt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to spread awareness about the judicious use of the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Rice husk is outer layer of paddy and a major by-product of the rice milling industry. Apart from its use as fuel for cooking, rice husk is also being used for fuel in boiler for processing of paddy; board and paper manufacturing; packing and building material, water heating and power generation etc.

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has been promoting Biomass based Gasifier system for providing unmet demand of electricity in villages and captive power and thermal applications in rice mills and other industries. About 350 rice mills and other industries in the country are primarily using rice husk for meeting their captive energy needs. In addition, rice husk is also being used for grid connected power generation. MNRE is promoting various programs in rice producing regions/states using surplus rice husk for various energy applications through seminar/workshop/ business meets etc. Besides rice husk based cook stove, bio power generation unit, and husked based gasifier are also being promoted by the Government.