

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2528

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013

USE OF BIO DIESEL

Sugumar Shri K.

**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has claimed a technological break-through for advancing use of biodiesel in the country and ensuring ready acceptance of the fuel by the automobile industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IOC has successfully developed and commercialised a technology to co-process non- edible vegetable oil in the existing diesel hydro-treating units of a petroleum refinery to make bio- diesel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER of STATE for PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. R&D Division of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL – R&D) has recently claimed a technological breakthrough for producing improved diesel through co-processing of vegetable oil in refinery. IOCL had also earlier developed technology for producing bio-diesel through trans-esterification of vegetable oils.

Co-processing of vegetable oil in refinery is a better option than bio-diesel as it utilizes the existing refinery infrastructure, does not require methanol and also does not produce any by-product. The diesel quality is also better in terms of Cetane, Density, Oxidation, stability etc. The approach may ensure the ready acceptance of the fuel by the automobile industry.

(c)&(d) Yes Madam. IOCL – R&D has successfully developed and demonstrated a technology to co-process non-edible vegetable oil. In this process conventional bio-diesel (Fatty Acid Methyl Ester) is not produced, instead vegetable oil is directly converted to diesel stream.

IOCL – R&D has successfully conducted a demonstration trial for co-processing of non-edible vegetable oil (200 MT) in Diesel Hydrotreating (DHDT) unit of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL), Manali by processing up to 6.5% of Jatropha Oil along with diesel feed.