

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1413
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013
CONVERSION OF CELLULOSE INTO ETHANOL
Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Finland for conversion of cellulose into ethanol;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the terms and conditions of the MoU and its financial implications; and
- (d) the time by which the project is likely to be commissioned?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Finland's Chempolis Ltd. signed a preliminary collaboratory pact for the production of the bio-fuel ethanol on 15th October 2013 in New Delhi. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would give ONGC access to technology for the conversion of cellulose into ethanol.

(c) to (d): This MoU is only a precursor to the proposed Agreement between the two Parties. The final Agreement shall contain the terms and conditions as agreed and formulated during the negotiations between the Parties.

The MoU shall, inter-alia, continue to be in force until the Parties have signed the Agreement.