

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3834  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON BIO-FUEL  
Munda Shri Arjun ;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is formulating any plan to utilize non-forest land and barren land for growing bio-fuel in the country including Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has got State-wise land survey conducted for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for funding of rural development project on bio-diesel to be expected in the next five years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the funds released and spent so far, year-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a)to (d) No Sir,Government is not formulating at present any plan to utilize Non Forest land and barren land for growing bio-fuel in the country including Jharkhand No Land survey has been conducted State wise for the purpose however the Funds released by Department of Land Resources during Financial year 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 are annexed as Annexure ? I. Further the Status in brief of Bio-diesel Programme under Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources) is as under:

(i) Proposal for launching demonstration phase of the National Mission on Bio-diesel was considered by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs and it was referred to Group of Ministers (GoM).

(ii) The recommendations of GoM were submitted to the Cabinet.The Cabinet in its meeting held on 11.9.2008 referred the matter to GoM again to sort out the outstanding issues.

(iii) GoM met on 24.2.2009 and the proposal of the Ministry of Rural Development including establishing a National Mission on Bio-diesel was approved by the GoM, in principle, subject to the following:

- (a) The demonstration phase can be taken up only after an assessment is carried out of the plantation work already undertaken in the country and positive feed back received, and availability of budget.
- (b) Research and Development work to be coordinated as proposed under the National Policy on Bio-fuels with allocations for R&D to be made under the budgets of the respective Ministries/Departments and Agencies.
- (c) The Policy Coordination Committee, as proposed in the proposal of MoRD, need not be set up in view of the policy coordination mechanisms already proposed in the National Policy on Bio-fuels.

Recommendations made by the Group of Ministers on the proposal of the MoRD on Establishment of the National Mission on Bio-diesel and launch of its demonstration phase (phase-I) were included in the Cabinet Note submitted by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy on 9th July, 2009 for approval of Cabinet. The Cabinet considered the above Note of MNRE in its meeting held on 23rd July, 2009 and approved the proposals contained in paragraph above.

As per the Cabinet decision, further necessary steps to carry out the impact assessment study for the plantation work already undertaken in the country is being done by this Ministry.

(e) & (f) Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a proposal to sanction Research Development Project on Bio-diesel with an estimated cost of Rs.2745.87 lakhs for five years 2008-09 to 2012 ? 13 and to release year wise funds to Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU), International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Central Research Institute for Dry Land Agriculture (CRIDA), National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), Directorate of Oil Seeds Research (DOR) and Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT).

However, an amount of Rs.10.75 cores was sanctioned during financial year 2005-06 to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for raising

seedlings of bio-fuel plants. No funds were released after that.