

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1454
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
PROMOTION OF JATROPHA PLANTATION
Girri Shri Maheish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is promoting farming of Jatropha for biodiesel to reduce burden of fossil fuel and bring down carbon emission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total production of Jatropha in the country during the last three years and current year along with the various steps taken by the Government for promotion of Jatropha farming in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a) & (b): In 2009, a National Policy on Biofuels was adopted. The policy has provision for plantation of trees bearing non-edible oilseeds. Department of Agriculture & Cooperation through National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board implemented Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) Scheme for plantation of TBOs including Jatropha during 2003-04 to 2009-10. NOVOD Board had taken up plantation of Jatropha in about 13,807 ha. during 2003-04 to 2009-10. The plantation programme was discontinued from 2010-11. NOVOD Board initiated national research network programme in 2004-05 to address various researchable issues. The participating R & D centres have identified the location specific promising genotypes of Jatropha having higher seed yield, higher oil content and other yield attribution characteristics. The evaluation of these identified superior genotypes is at advance stage in the field trials. The superior genotypes will serve as parent material for undertaking future farming of Jatropha. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has sanctioned a five year project in 2010 to assess the suitability and productivity of selected promising genotypes of Jatropha in 4 States.

(c): National Mission on Oilseed and Oil Palm (NMOOP) has been initiated from the year 2014-15, Mini Mission-III (MM-III) of NMOOP promotes plantation of TBOs including Jatropha by providing support for elite planting materials, maintenance of TBOs till gestation period, inter cropping and other activities. During 2014-15, MM-III is being implemented in eleven States and has targeted to cover 1759 ha. under TBOs of which 263 ha. is under Jatropha. Data on production of Jatropha is not available.