

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:253

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005

RUNNING OF LOCOMOTIVES BY DIESEL MIXED WITH JATROPHA OIL

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has achieved success in running locomotives by diesel mixed with Jatropa oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is encouraging to cultivate Jatropa plants on its surplus land; and
- (d) if so, the area of the land on which these plants are likely to be cultivated?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Successful field trials have been carried out by using 10% blend of bio-diesel on Jan Shatabadi Express between Lucknow and Allahabad as against earlier trial conducted with 5% blend on Amritsar Shatabdi Express in December 2002.

In addition to the above Southern Railway operates 4 Diesel/Electric Multiple Units (DEMUs) and 2 Metre Gauge (MG) locos for passenger service with 5% blending of bio- diesel. Southern Railway also runs about 25 road vehicles with a blend of bio-diesel.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The area per se has not been quantified. Railways have planted about 75 lakh saplings of Jatropa Curcas in last two years. 60 lakh more saplings of Jatropa Curcas are planned for plantation in the current year i.e.2005-06.