

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2632

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005

MILLING OF RICE

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Shahid Shri Mohammed

**Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new system for milling of rice as reported in the `Dainik jagaran` dated November 07,2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether trials were conducted for testing the said new system;
- (d) if so, whether the adoption of the Biomass Gassifier System is likely to reduce the cost and time taken in milling of rice;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (f) the manner in which the farmers are likely to be benefited from the said system?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a) & (b): Rice mills that are mostly situated in rural areas generally install diesel generating sets to meet their captive energy requirements in view of unreliable supply of grid power. With the continuous hike in diesel prices, the cost of milling has gone up. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme which provides partial financial assistance to encourage the installation of biomass gasifiers in rice mills for meeting their captive energy requirements.

(c) : A large number of biomass gasifiers have been installed in rice mills in different parts of the country. In West Bengal, in particular, 45 rice mills have already installed such systems that are running successfully.

(d), (e) & (f): In view of availability of reliable energy from the biomass gasifier systems, the cost and time of rice milling has reduced considerably. The raw material for the gasifier is available from the rice mill itself in the form of rice husk. In the dual fuel gasifier systems that have been installed so far, upto 70% of diesel replacement is obtained. Gasifiers with 100% gas engines have recently been developed and are undergoing trials. They are likely to further reduce the cost of rice milling by completely eliminating the use of diesel. An additional benefit is that the quality of rice does not get affected on account of uninterrupted supply of energy from the gasifiers.