

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3230  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004  
PRODUCTION OF BIO-DIESEL  
Deo Shri Bikram Keshari

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to produce bio-diesel from Non-edible oil seed plants like Jatropha(Ratan Jyot);
- (b) whether Government has any pilot project for the same;
- (c) if so, the details of plans to produce Bio-Diesel as a co-producer with the Railways?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a)to(c) The Planning Commission set-up a Committee on Development of Bio-Fuel, which in its report recommended, inter alia, production of bio-diesel from jatropha curcas. The Ministry of Rural Development, which is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the report of the Committee, has commissioned the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) by The Energy and Resources Institute(TERI) New Delhi for the purpose.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Research & Development Centre of M/s Indian Oil Corporation and Indian Railways for developing and undertaking a joint programme to produce bio-diesel, blend it with diesel and to use the blend in operating diesel engines owned by Indian Railways. For this purpose, the technology developed by IOC (R&D) and the land available with Indian Railways adjacent to railway tracks is to be employed. A work order for plantation of jatropha curcas on 70 hectares of Railways land has been awarded and work started at Surendra Nagar District in Gujarat.