

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3575
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2006
INCLUSION OF JATROPHA PLANTATION UNDER NREGS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry(FICCI) has suggested for giving boost to the plantation of a Jatropa so as to produce bio- diesel and thereby bring down import of petroleum products by India;
- (b) If so, whether it has also suggested inclusion of plantation of a Jatropa and production of bio-diesel as a part under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(NREGS); and
- (c) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) to (c) No, Sir. No suggestions have been received in the Department of Rural Development from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry for giving boost to the plantation of Jatropa so as to produce bio-diesel and bring down import of petroleum products. However, in the production process of bio- diesel, the first step comprising plantation and raising of oil seeds may be taken up by the State Governments under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as this is within the scope of works mentioned in schedule I of the Act.