GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1396 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2017 PRODUCTION OF BIO-DIESEL

1396. SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY:

Will the Minister of NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether bio-diesel is being produced commercially in the country for blending with diesel;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any research has been made for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): No Madam.

(b): Non-availability of tree borne oilseeds is the main constraint for commercial production of biodiesel in the country.

(c): Support to various Research and Development activities has been provided for feedstock development, their use for biodiesel production, improvement of the yield of tree borne oilseeds for biodiesel production, industrial and other uses.

Studies have been initiated to collect, identify and characterize algal strains having more oil/lipid content.

(d): The Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar has developed technologies for production of biodiesel from elite varieties of Jatropha curcas and also developed technology for their propagation. They have also developed downstream (transesterification) technologies and produced biodiesel from algae.

Two biodiesel plants of 1000 litre per day (LPD) capacity have been set up by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) at Hyderabad and Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Ltd, Udaipur based on CSMCRI transesterification technology. The Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun has also developed the biodiesel's feedstock processing technologies containing wide range of free fatty acid and conducted trials on engine under stationary and running conditions for efficiency and emissions from biodiesel blends.

National Chemical Laboratory, Pune has developed the process of making biodiesel with solid catalyst.

Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad and Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur have also developed semi continuous biodiesel plants.

A process of using edible and non-edible oils for biodiesel production has also been developed by Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai.

A National Repository for Microalgae with a collection of more than 2000 algal strains have been characterized and maintained in various parts of the country.