GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
**LOK SABHA**
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3665**
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2017

**PRODUCTION OF ETHANOL**

3665. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

(a) whether ethanol can be produced from variety of food stocks based on edible or non-edible products other than sugarcane and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to set up an industry working group to look into the feasibility of production of ethanol from variety of food stocks and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government is planning to allocate more funds for research and development on production of ethanol from various sources that will enhance the country's energy security and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the amount of funds allocated for the research and development on ethanol based petrol (EBP) during each of last three years and the current year?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a):** Yes Madam. Ethanol can be produced from indigenous biomass such as sugar containing materials like sugar beet, sweet sorghum etc, starch containing materials such as corn, cassava, algae etc, and cellulosic materials such as bagasse, wood-waste, agricultural and forestry residues, etc.

**(b):** No Madam.

**(c):** The Government emphasizes on the production of ethanol from ligno-cellulosic biomass from sources including agro wastes; agro-industrial wastes and residues. For this, continuous support is being provided by Ministries of Agriculture, New & Renewable Energy; Science & Technology for various research and development projects on different aspects of production and enhancing the ethanol availability in the country, which leads to country’s energy security.

**(d):** The year-wise amount of funds allocated for research and development activities on ethanol by the Department of Biotechnology is as under :

| **Years** | **Allocation ( in Core)** |
|---|---|
| 2016-17 | 18.02 |
| 2015-16 | 09.00 |
| 2014-15 | 07.00 |
| 2013-14 | 05.00 |
| **Total** | **39.02** |

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