

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2687  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018**

**BIO-DIESEL**

**†2687. SHRI RAJU SHETTY:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railway has constituted a joint working group for afforestation on the vacant land along railway tracks to produce bio-diesel from the seeds of plants;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the bio-diesel is likely to be cheaper and environment friendly;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the progress made in research and development studies in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

- (a) No, Madam.**
- (b) Does not arise.**
- (c)&(d) The Bio-Diesel i.e. B-100 is not likely to be cheaper than Petro Diesel on account of present taxes scenario. Bio-Diesel is environment friendly. It substantially reduces unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and particulate matter in exhaust fumes. Sulphur dioxide emissions are also eliminated.**

**(e) Indian Railways has tested the bio-diesel of different feed stock (Jatropha, Mahua, pongamia, waste cotton seed, Fish Oil, Soyabean oil, Palm stearin etc.) in the different blending ratio such as B5, B10, B20, B50 and B 100 on its 16 cylinder ALCo and EMD engine test beds. The power performance of engine has been found satisfactory without any adverse impact on engine working. Besides, bio-diesel is found to reduce certain emission parameters which would have otherwise caused pollution in environment.**

**Key Advantages of Bio-Diesel:**

- (i) Renewable Energy source**
- (ii) Derived from Vegetable oil**
- (iii) Non-toxic & Biodegradable**
- (iv) Contains no sulphur that causes acid rain**
- (v) Higher Cetane number, better ignition quality**
- (vi) Used directly in unmodified Diesel engines, neat or blended in any ratio with HSD**
- (vii) Higher Lubricity – Can prolong engine life**
- (viii) Flashpoint higher than HSD-safer to store & transport**
- (ix) Environment friendly-less emissions**
- (x) Has rural employment potential.**

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