

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.598
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2018**

BIOMASS PALLETS FOR THERMAL POWER PLANTS

**598. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:
SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to use biomass pallets (Parali) with coal in the country's thermal power plants, if so, the details thereof along with State and UT-wise where biomass pallets (Parali) will be used with coal;
- (b) whether the use of biomass pallets (Parali) with coal to produce electricity will be costlier, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to reduce the cost of electricity using Parali with coal; and
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to see how much extra production of electricity can be done using biomass pallets available in the country, if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER
AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

(a) to (c) : Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has issued an advisory dated 17 Nov 2017 to all the coal based power plants to use 5-10% of agro residue based pellets along with coal. CEA has also issued technical specification for pellets/torrefied pellets. In line with above advisory, NTPC has floated tender for procurement of 1000 metric tonnes per day (MTPD) of agro residue based pellets/torrefied pellets for NTPC Dadri. Out of total requirement of 1000 MTPD, purchase order for 200 metric tonnes per day of agro residue based pellets/torrefied pellets has been placed to three companies with supply duration of 2 years.

As per NTPC, use of farm stubble in its power plants will increase the cost of power generation. The increase in variable charge of electricity will depend on difference in price of biomass and coal, increase in heat rate and increase in auxiliary power consumption. The increase in fixed charges will depend as per additional capital expenditure required for biomass material handling infrastructure.

As per estimate of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 1000 TPD (tonnes per day) of biomass pellets have the potential to generate 65 MW of power or 1.56 MU of electricity on daily basis when fired with coal in a coal fired power plant.
