

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 175
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

SCHEME FOR UTILIZATION OF BIOMASS

175. SH. SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme under which the utilization of huge surplus biomass could be done because of its large availability in West Bengal and other parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details along with the future initiatives thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to(c) The Government has taken various steps to promote the utilization of surplus biomass across the country including the State of West Bengal which, *inter alia*, include the following:

(i) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has notified National Bioenergy Programme in November, 2022 for the period 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026. This programme, with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 1715 Crore, shall be implemented in two phases. The first phase has a budgetary outlay of Rs. 858 Crore. This programme provides Central Financial Assistance for setting up of Bioenergy plants.

(ii) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative in October, 2018 for offtake of BioCNG/Compressed Biogas (CBG) after purification through Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for sale as automotive fuels.

(iii) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, has notified GOBARDHAN scheme wherein financial assistance is available for setting up of community biogas plants in villages, blocks / district.

(iv) Ministry of Power has notified SAMARTH mission (National Mission on Use of Biomass in Thermal Power Plants) for promoting the blending of biomass in the existing coal powered thermal power plants.

Apart from above programmes/schemes, Central Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified guidelines to provide financial support for setting up of Biomass Pellet plants in the NCT of Delhi, States of Punjab and Haryana and NCR districts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
