

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3474
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022**

BENEFIT OF CO-FIRING BIOMASS PELLETS

3474. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

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

- (a) the benefit of co-firing biomass pellets in thermal power plants;**
- (b) whether there is sufficient supply of biomass pellets to meet the demands of thermal power plants across the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of thermal power plants that are already co-firing biomass pellets;**
- (d) whether in future, biomass can completely replace coal in thermal power plants; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

- (a) : Biomass co-firing in Thermal Power Station (TPS) has several benefits as under:**
- i. Reduction in amount of coal used for power generation resulting in corresponding savings in CO2 emissions. This would also reduce the sector's dependence on coal.**
 - ii. Production of electricity from a resource (biomass) which was earlier being wasted.**
 - iii. Income generation for farmers and job creation by pellet manufacturers.**
 - iv. Preservation of soil culture which gets destroyed in farm fires.**
 - v. Reduction in air pollution due to reduction in stubble burning.**
- (b) : Efforts are being made to meet the demand for 5% co-firing in TPS across the country. With the Government policy in force and multiple initiatives taken to strengthen supply chain infrastructure, pellet/briquette manufacturing capacity is expected to rise in near future.**
- (c) : About 23 Thermal Power Plants have co-fired biomass pellets so far. Approximately 66000 Metric Tons (MT) of biomass has been co-fired till date.**
- (d) & (e) : As per present initiative, Biomass Pellets are targeted to co-fire with coal. The blending of biomass with coal will reduce coal dependence in thermal power plants.**
