GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2163
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010
RESEARCH ON SUGARCANE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the research work done on sugarcane during the last three years and the current year indicating the names of research institutes engaged in such work; and

(b) the details of the benefits accrued as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has two research institutes on sugarcane viz. Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR), Lucknow and Sugarcane Breeding Institute (SBI), Coimbatore. Their research work during last three years and the current year is given at Annexure-I.

(b): The SBI, Coimbatore has released 11 varieties, two for North central zone, five for North western zone and four for peninsular zone. Institute produced and supplied 1225 tonnes of breeder seed and 97,974 tissue culture plantlets and bud chip plants.

A technique had been developed through which four viral diseases of sugarcane can be detected and this will facilitate production of healthy sugarcane seed. Remote sensing and satellite imaging had been used to demarcate yellow leaf disease affected fields. This will help in the effective management of this disease. Micro-irrigation studies conducted at the Institute showed 40-50% saving in water. Through fertigation 25% of NPK fertilizer can be saved. Few systemic fungicides (Thiophorate methyl, Cabrio and Nativo) were identified for control of primary infection of red rot. This will help in the management of red rot.

Sugarcane variety CoLk 94184 was developed by IISR, Lucknow and released for commercial cultivation in North Central Zone of the country comprising Eastern U.P. and Bihar. Ratoon Management Device (RMD) for enhancing ratoon cane productivity has been developed by the institute. Bud chips stored in polyethylene bags after fungicide treatment and maintained at low temperature conditions (10Â±1ÂºC) exhibited about 80% bud germination after 10 days of storage than those stored at room temperature (about 40%). This will help in management of abiotic stress of low temperature.