

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3387

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011

ETHANOL PRODUCTION BY SUGAR MILLS

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of the sugar mills in the country producing ethanol from molasses;
- (b) the quantum of ethanol produced by the sugar mills during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any scheme to promote production of ethanol by providing financial and technical assistance to the sugar mills including those in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a): As per industry sources, 131 sugar mills in the country have installed capacity to produce ethanol from molasses.
- (b): The estimated production of ethanol during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is annexed herewith. Figures for the current year are not available as the season is still in progress.
- (c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983 provide for soft loans, upto 40% of the project cost, to the sugar mills for setting up ethanol projects to improve their viability via value addition to their by-product namely molasses.