GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7590 ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012 PRODUCTION OF SURGARCANE Das Shri Khagen;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cultivation and production of sugarcane vary from State to State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the production of sugarcane in those States which are registering lower production of the same;
- (d) whether the production of sugarcane is commensurate with the domestic demands of sugar in the country;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken to bridge the gap between production of sugarcane and demand of sugar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Sugarcane is widely cultivated in tropical (Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa) and sub-tropical (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, West Bengal and North East States) region of the country. The productivity of tropical region is higher compared to sub-tropical region mainly because of conducive climate, lower incidence of pest & diseases and higher sugar recovery rate.
- (c): In order to increase the sugarcane production in the country including low producing states, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Area (SUBACS) under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture. Apart from this, under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the State Governments have been given flexibility to choose their priorities for formulation of the crop development projects including sugarcane. All the above programmes are focused on planting material, transfer of technology, improve productivity, knowledge upgradation and mechanization etc. Government is also providing loan at concessional rates of interest to the sugar mills for development of sugarcane in their respective areas under Sugar Development Fund (SDF) statutorily maintained and managed by Department of Food & Public Distribution.
- (d) to (f): Yes, the average production of sugarcane during 11th plan period (2007-08 to 2011-12) was 299.75 million tones as against the average projected demand of 291.44 million tones.

The average (2007-08 to 2011-12 Adv. Estimate) domestic consumption of sugar was 217.15 lakh tones as against the production of 218.63 lakh tones.