

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:218
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014
RESEARCH ON SUGARCANE
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of research institutes involved in carrying out research for improving production and productivity of sugarcane in the country and the achievements made as a result of their research in the field;
- (b) whether any intensive research has been conducted on sugarcane to develop high yielding sugarcane varieties for augmenting the production of ethanol in the country and if so, the details of new sugarcane varieties evolved along with their characteristics; and
- (c) the steps taken to popularize and propagate the high yielding varieties of sugarcane amongst the farmers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 218 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22/07/2014 REGARDING "RESEARCH ON SUGARCANE"

(a) Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR), Lucknow, Sugarcane Breeding Institute (SBI), Coimbatore and All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) carry out research for improving the production and productivity of sugarcane in the country. The salient achievements made as a result of the research in the field are given in Annexure-I.

(b) Yes, Madam. Intensive research efforts have been made for development of high yielding sugarcane varieties with high sucrose content. Varieties with more fermentable sugar and juice content are suitable for augmenting the production of ethanol. The details of such new sugarcane varieties are given in Annexure-II.

(c) The high yielding sugarcane varieties are popularized among farmers through various outreach programmes like frontline Demonstrations (FLD), training programmes to sugarcane development personnel and farmers, organization of field days, kisan mela, mass media and distribution of quality seeds of improved varieties to the farmers. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of ICAR also impart training and distribute the seeds of improved varieties in sugarcane growing areas. The Quality Seed Production Programme of elite sugarcane varieties is undertaken by ICAR institutes in collaboration with various State Governments and sugar mills to popularize and propagate elite high yielding sugarcane varieties. In addition, under National Food Security Mission, assistance to breeder seed production, production of tissue culture raised seedlings and sugarcane based cropping systems are provided by the Central Government to popularize the high yielding varieties of sugarcane.