

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2948
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MARCH, 2018

MAIZE PRODUCTION

2948. SHRI RAJU SHETTY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE **‡ãðŠãäÓã** एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâããè be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has surveyed the potential of maize production for replacement of the cultivable area of paddy and wheat in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government is aware that maize is utilised for production of ethanol for industrial and medicinal uses and animal feed and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government proposes to promote maize production to produce its by products like ethanol; and
- if so, the way of action proposed to promote the production of ethanol from maize as sole crop?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâããè ½ãñã Àã•¼ã ½ãâããè (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The Government has not conducted any survey as such for the potential of maize production for replacement of the cultivable area of paddy and wheat in the country. However, in order to tackle the problem of declining soil fertility and depleting water table in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh, it was felt to launch a programme that could tackle the above problem. Accordingly, Government has been implementing the Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) since 2013-14 as a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to divert the area of water guzzling paddy to alternate crops like pulses, oil seeds, coarse cereals including maize, cotton and agro-forestry. In addition, the production of maize is also being promoted through implementation of the programme of National Food Security Mission-Coarse Cereals.

(b): According to estimates made by India Maize Summit, 2015, 17-20% maize is used for food industry and consumption; 60-62% feed industry; 6-7% seed & other uses and 12-14% for industrial applications. Around 1% is being used only for ethanol production.

(c) & (d): The Government is promoting maize production especially for feed and fodder. However, in December, 2014, the Government allowed procurement of ethanol produced from cellulosic and lignocellulosic material for blending in petrol, subject to meeting the relevant BIS standards.
