

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5174
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27/03/2018

RESEARCH FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

5174. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that still a dedicated research for enhancing the food production and exploring the new areas are required to be done in the country and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government has identified the States which are environmentally more suitable for cultivation of bananas and sugarcane other than the current major producing States and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the agencies of the Government have prepared any plan for encouraging the farmers of these States to cultivate banana and sugarcane in their farms and if so, the details thereof and the efforts and achievement made so far in this regard; and
- (d) the other areas identified by the Union Government which are suitable for a particular crops, fruit and vegetable other than the current major producing States and initiatives taken in this regard?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

- (a) ICAR is well aware about the fact and dedicated research is being carried out to enhance food production through National Agricultural Research System. The NARS is continuously developing improved varieties, value added products, production and protection technologies which resulted to increase production and productivity of food crops in the country. As per second advanced estimate a record production of 277.48 mt of food grains and 305.42 mt fruits and vegetables have been achieved in the country

during 2017-18 which provides food and nutritional security of people of the country. ICAR is initiating the new research programme in the areas of Hybrid technology, Transgenic, Molecular Breeding, Gene Editing, Agro-biodiversity and Bio-fortification etc. to fulfil the future food requirement of the ever growing population of the country.

(b) Banana & Sugarcane are being cultivated in Tropical and subtropical areas of the country due to suitable agro-climatic conditions and availability of adequate irrigation facility.

The Government has recognized the states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand etc. as non-traditional states for banana cultivation. States where banana was grown as a back-yard crop have also taken up commercial cultivation especially North Eastern states like Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Sugarcane is being cultivated mainly in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Gujarat, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Haryana. However there is very little scope to extend the sugarcane area in other states of the country.

(c) & (d): The Government is encouraging banana cultivation through sensitization, training, supply of quality planting material and other inputs. Besides, Govt. has introduced CHAMAN (Co-ordinated Horticulture Assessment and Management Using geoinformatics) Scheme for 7 horticultural crops (Potato, Onion, Chilli, Tomato, Mango, Banana and Citrus) in 12 major states in 180 districts to carry out research on horticultural crop condition studies, diseases assessment and precision farming.
