O.I.H.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3315
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/01/2019

NEW VARIETY OF SORGHUM

3315. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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

(a) whether agricultural scientists have succeeded in developing a new variety of sorghum in the country which can be used for bio-fuel production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this new variety has been tested and whether it has proved to be successful;

(d) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme for its development; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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 GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): The agricultural scientists of National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs) and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have developed sweet sorghum varieties like SSV 84, CSV 19SS, CSV 24SS and hybrids like CSH 22SS, RVICSH 28 and Phule Vasundhara which can be used for bio-fuel production.

(c) Some of these varieties and hybrids such as SSV 84, CSH 22SS, RVICSH 28 and Phule Vasundhara have been tested for bio-fuel production by various sugar mills/industries (eg. Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills, Uttar Pradesh; Salem Cooperative Sugar Mills, Tamil Nadu; Rusni Distilleries, Telangana, TATA Chemicals, Maharashtra; etc.) and the realized ethanol yields ranged from 40 - 50 litre/tonne of cane crushed.

(d) & (e): The Government of India has formulated National Policy on Bio-fuels (NPB) 2018, wherein, sweet sorghum has been identified as a candidate crop for bio-fuel production along with other feed stocks.

Besides, Government of India through Department of Biotechnology, has also been promoting commercialization of sweet sorghum for bio-fuel production.

****