

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4260
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2025

MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF SUGAR FACTORIES

4260. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of policies or schemes formulated by the Government to support the modernization and expansion of sugar factories and the development of sugarcane farming particularly in regions such as the Tirupati Parliamentary Constituency segment;
- (b) whether the Government has any plans to establish a dedicated research institute in Andhra Pradesh, similar to the National Sugar Institute, to facilitate research on sugarcane improvement, production and management; and
- (c) if so, the details and the location thereof along with the scope of research activities for the benefit of sugarcane farmers and sugar industries in Tirupati and other regions of Andhra Pradesh?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): The policies are framed for country as a whole for welfare of sugarcane farmers and sugar industry. Under Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982, financial assistance in the form of SDF loans were given to sugar mills, inter-alia, for Modernisation Cum Expansion of sugar mill, Cane Development, Bagasse-Based Cogeneration power projects, production of Anhydrous Alcohol or Ethanol/Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) plant. However, the SDF loan schemes have been closed by this Department vide letter dated 21.09.2021.

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In order to enhance the ethanol production capacity in the country, Central Government has also notified various ethanol interest subvention schemes from 2018 to 2022 inter-alia, for sugar mills for setting up of new distilleries, expansion of existing distilleries and for conversion of existing molasses based distilleries to dual feed distilleries throughout the country.

A new scheme for Cooperative Sugar Mills has also been notified on 06.03.2025 for conversion of their existing sugarcane based ethanol plants into multi-feed based ethanol plants.

(b) & (c): The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that there are three Sugarcane Research Stations working in the State namely:

- (i) Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Anakapalli, Anakapalli District.
- (ii) Sugarcane Research Station, Vuyyuru, Krishna District
- (iii) Agricultural Research Station, Perumallapalli, Tirupati District.

These Research Stations are working to develop and release of area specific seed cane varieties to sustain local climatic conditions for the benefit of sugarcane farmers and industry. The prominent seed cane varieties released so far are 2003V46, 93V97, COT8201, COA14321 and 2006A223.
