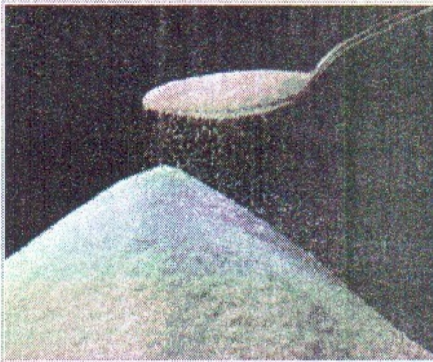


Industry brainstorms crisis in sugar sector

The glut in the sugar market has kept sugar prices comparatively low affecting the profitability of sugar companies

Virendra Singh Rawat | Lucknow July 18, 2014 Last Updated at 16:58 IST



Sugarcane, which is a leading cash crop supporting about 50 million farmers' households in India, is currently in the vortex of crisis.

While cane arrears have become an annual phenomenon putting growers to hardships, the glut in the international and domestic sugar market have kept sugar prices comparatively low affecting the profitability of sugar companies.

To brainstorm challenges facing industry, Sugar Technologists' Association of India (STAI) organised an all India seminar on 'Diminishing Sugarcane Productivity and Sugar Recovery in Northern India: Opportunities & Challenges' in association with National Sugar Institute (NSI), Kanpur here today.

In recent years, India has clocked record production of sugarcane and sugar, however productivity and sugar recovery in Northern India has remained stagnant for over a decade.

Compared to average yield of 100 tonnes/hectare in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra & Karnataka, average yield in UP has averaged 59 tonnes/hectare despite being the largest sugarcane producing state in the country.

With challenges of growing population, increasing food and fodder needs, degradation of natural resources, climate change etc, there is an urgent need to enhance sugarcane yield and productivity to meet future sugar requirements, STAI president Dr G S C Rao said.

He suggested reduction in cost of production of sugar was vital towards achieving sustainability.

"Latest technologies in sugarcane processing, energy conservation devices to enhance power export and having options to produce ethanol with raw/white sugar are few measures to reduce the cost of sugar production," NSI director Narendra Mohan said.

"The prevailing crisis is due to glut in global sugar market, which should be preempted with multi-pronged strategies, including exports, product diversification, incentives etc," Dr Rao told Business Standard on the sidelines.

UP Agriculture Production Commissioner (APC) V N Garg said sugar institutes, millers and farmers should work in tandem for sustainable development of sugar industry.

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Seminar on sugarcane productivity organised in Lucknow

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LUCKNOW: The Sugar Technologists' Association of India (STAI) organized an All India seminar on 'Diminishing Sugarcane Productivity and Sugar Recovery in Northern India: Opportunities & Challenges' in association with National Sugar Institute, in Lucknow on Friday.

The seminar was inaugurated by VN Garg, Agriculture Production Commissioner. Speaking on the occasion Garg said that the state has numerous challenges as well as opportunities. He also said that the state has three premier sugar institutes and they should work in tandem with the millers, farmers for sustainable development of the sugar industry.

"With diverse challenges and constraints as growing population, increasing food, feed and fodder needs, degradation of natural resources degradation, climate change etc., there is an urgent need to enhance sugarcane yield and productivity to meet future sugar requirements" said GSC Rao, president, The Sugar Technologists Association of India.

"Reduction in cost of production of sugar is a vital factor towards achieving the sustainability. Latest technologies in Sugar Cane processing, energy conservation devices to enhance the power export and having options to produce ethanol from B-heavy along with Raw/white sugar are few measures to reduce the cost of production of Sugar" said Narendra Mohan, Director, National Sugar Institute, Kanpur and Vice President, STAI

Bakshi Ram, director, UP Council of Sugarcane Research in his address said that "Possibility of increasing the sugarcane productivity mainly depends on utilizing the high sugared varieties. The overall varietal scenario in the state indicated prevalence of a few varieties that were released more than 20 years ago. It is high time that the industry should look for high sugared varieties.

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'Urgent need to enhance sugarcane yield to meet future demands'

HT Correspondent

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LUCKNOW: The Sugarcane Technologists Association of India (STAI), an apex body of sugar industry professionals, organized a seminar on 'Diminishing sugarcane productivity and sugar recovery in northern India: Opportunities and challenges' on Friday.

Inaugurating the seminar, agriculture production commissioner VN Garg said the state was facing numerous challenges as well as opportunities in the field. "It is important that the three premier sugar institutes in UP work in tandem with the millers and farmers for sustainable development of the industry," he said.

Mrs. Monika, president of Sugarcane Technologists Association of India (STAI) has said: "With diverse challenges and constraints as growing population, increasing food, feed and fodder needs, degradation of natural resources and climate change, there is an urgent need to enhance sugarcane yield and productivity to meet future sugar requirements."

Sugarcane is a leading cash crop and is a source of livelihood for an estimated 50 million farmers and their dependents in the country. As compared to an average yield of 100 tonnes per hectare in states like Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka, average yield in UP has averaged close to 60 tonnes per hectare. This is despite the fact that UP is the largest sugarcane producing state in the country.

Reduction in cost of production of sugar is a vital factor towards achieving the sustainability. Latest technologies in

DESPITE BEING THE LARGEST SUGAR PRODUCING STATE, UTTAR PRADESH'S AVERAGE YIELD IS 59 TONNES PER HECTARE

sugarcane processing, energy conservation devices to enhance the power export and having options to produce ethanol along with raw/white sugar are few measures to reduce the cost of production," said Narendra Mishra, director of National Sugar Institute, Kanpur and vice president of STAI.

Director of Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research S. Sekhri said that the productivity of sugarcane is significantly higher in tropical region in comparison to subtropics, leaving an adverse impact on the overall national productivity. In such a scenario, he said, enhancing sugarcane productivity has become important in the view of rising internal consumption of sugarcane and for ensuring the adequate exports.

The major constraints encountered by the crop during the growth cycle involve several physiological and biochemical issues beginning from the germination till harvesting of the crop, Sekhri said.

In his address UP Council of Sugarcane Research director Mahesh Kumar said, "Possibility of increasing the sugarcane productivity mainly depends on utilizing the high sugared varieties. The overall scenario in the state indicated prevalence of a few varieties that were released more than 20 years ago." He added that it was time that the industry looked for high sugared varieties.

चीनी उद्योग किसानों से बढ़ाए संवाद : एपीसी



तखनऊ में शुक्रवार को गन्ने की खेती और चीनी उद्योग की दिक्कतों पर गोष्ठी हुई।

राज्य मुख्यालय प्रमुख संवाददाता

प्रदेश के कृषि उत्पादन आयुक्त सी.एन.गर्ग ने कहा है कि देश के अन्य गन्ना उत्पादक राज्यों की तुलना में उत्तर प्रदेश में चुनौतियाँ काफी ज्यादा हैं। इस नए राज्य के चीनी उद्योग की अनुसंधान और तकनीक के नए उपकरणों के साथ किसानों से संवाद बढ़ाना पड़ेगा।

श्रीगर्ग ने यह बोलते शुक्रवार को यहां होटल ब्लाक्स अवध में गन्ने की खेती और चीनी उद्योग की दिक्कतों पर हुई गोष्ठी में कहीं। द शुगर टेक्नोलॉजिस्ट एसोसिएशन आफ इण्डिया (एसटीएआई) की ओर से आयोजित गोष्ठी में एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष डा. श्रीगमसी राम ने कहा कि बढ़ती

आबादी और माछान्न और चारे की बढ़ती जरूरतों के साथ प्राकृतिक संसाधन घटते जा रहे हैं। पलकानु में परिवर्तन के चलते भी खेती में कई तरह की चुनौतियाँ पैदा हो रही हैं।

नेशनल शुगर इस्टीमेट्स कांफ्रेंस के निदेशक जेम्स मोहन का कहना था कि चीनी बनाने में आरही लागत को घटाकर ही चीनी उद्योग को बचाया जा सकता है। इण्डियन इस्टीमेट्स आफ शुगरकेनरिसर्च के निदेशक डा एस सोलोमन के अलावा शुपी काउंसिल आफ शुगरकेनरिसर्च के निदेशक डा बंखरी राम ने भी गोष्ठी में अपनेविचार व्यक्त किए। यहां चीनी मिल मंचालकों को नई तकनीक और नए रसायनों व उपकरणों की जानकारी के लिए प्रदर्शनी भी लगाई गई थी।

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