

**ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture**

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**Date: 21.04.2016**

**Answer to the Rajya Sabha Q Dy. No. 1581**

**a) it is a fact that most agricultural practices followed in the country require 2-3 times more water for food crops compared to many other countries;**

- Information not available

**b) Whether it is also a fact that sugarcane crop requires more water compared to other crops and a water deficient state like Maharashtra concentrates more in cultivating sugarcane;**

Water requirement of sugarcane is 1500-2500 mm (*Eksali* and *Adsali* crops) and it should be evenly distributed during the growing season. This water requirement is high compared to other crops

**c) If so, whether Central Government would advise drought prone states to switch on to those practices and crops which require less water?**

Ideal crops suitable for each region of Maharashtra have been identified by State Agricultural Universities and State Agricultural Department.