

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3157
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
MANUFACTURING OF ALCOHOL FROM COARSE GRAINS
Baxla Shri Joachim

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the multi-national beverage giants are manufacturing alcohol from coarse grains like bajra, maize, sorghum and millets;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is aware that these coarse grains are mostly consumed by poor sections of society;
- (c) whether the Government has taken into consideration its impact on the supply and prices of such food grains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (d): Alcohol manufacturing industries in the country mainly use molasses. In some cases Non-molasses based raw material such as coarse grains like bajra, maize, sorghum and millets are also used for producing potable alcohol. The utilization of such grain-based raw material is low. Grains are more expensive than molasses and the chances of industries using grains in large quantity instead of molasses are remote. Therefore, the use of coarse grains is not likely to offset the supply and prices of food grains for human consumption.