

ORIGINAL IN HINDI

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

**LOK SABHA**  
STARRED QUESTION NO.336  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024

**OUTSTANDING DUES OF SUGARCANE FARMERS**

†\*336. SHRI RAM SHIROMANI VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of outstanding dues of sugarcane farmers towards sugar mills during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the sugar mills are not clearing the dues of sugarcane farmers every year and as a result, the said amount is consistently increasing, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure timely payment of price/outstanding dues to sugarcane farmers by sugar mills?

**A N S W E R**  
MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND  
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

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(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. \*336 FOR ANSWER ON 18.12.2024 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): As per information received from State Governments, total overdues of sugarcane farmers towards sugar mills during each of the last 3 years and the current year, year-wise and state-wise is given at **Annexure**.

(b) to (c): Payment of cane dues to farmers is a continuous process and from the annexure it may be seen that the outstanding cane arrears are decreasing continuously.

As per the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the sugar mills are required to make payment of cane price to the farmers within 14 days of supply of cane to the concerned sugar mills. The powers for enforcing the provisions of the Sugarcane Control (Order), 1966 have been delegated and vested with the State Governments/UTs Administrations.

With a view to facilitate payments of outstanding dues to the sugarcane farmers, the Central Government has taken various steps in the form of policy interventions from time to time as and when required, which are as under:

- i) Central Government fixes Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane having regard to the factors mentioned in Clause 3(1) of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.
- ii) Minimum Selling Price of sugar was fixed to prevent fall in ex-mill prices of sugar & accumulation of cane arrears (initially at ₹ 29/ kg w.e.f 07-06-2018; revised to ₹ 31/kg w.e.f. 14-02-2019).
- iii) Diversion of surplus sugar to production of ethanol led to improved financial conditions of sugar mills. As a result, they are able to clear cane dues early.

As a result of these measures, about 99.9% of cane dues up to sugar seasons 2022-23 have been cleared. For the previous sugar season 2023-24, out of total cane dues payable of Rs. 1,11,674 crores, about Rs. 1,10,399 crores have been paid & only Rs. 1,275 crores are pending as on 13.12.2024; thus around 99 % cane dues have been cleared. In the current Sugar Season 2024-25, out of the total cane price payable of Rs. 11,141 crores, Rs. 8,126 crores have already been paid to farmers.

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## ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. \*336 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 18.12.2024 IN THE LOK SABHA

Statement showing total overdue of sugarcane farmers by sugar mills during the last 3 years and the current year, year-wise and state-wise as on 13.12.2024

( Figures In Cr. Rs.)

State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Uttar Pradesh	37	128	1212	574
Maharashtra	32	10	2	526 (as on 30.11.2024)
Karnataka	0	0	0	1405
Tamil Nadu	0	0	11	24
Bihar	0	0	0	159
Uttarakhand	0	0	10	149
Andhra Pradesh	0	0	8	30
Others	28	0	32	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>1275</b>	<b>3015</b>

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