

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:493
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2000
SUGARCANE PRICING POLICY
A. VENKATESH NAIK

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

- (a) whether the sugarcane stock with the farmers is mounting year after year in the sugar producing States because of the unrealistic level of cane prices fixed by the Government;
- (b) if so, the position of cane stock and prices fixed during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have received representations from sugar producing State Governments/Associations/Federation of Sugar mills regarding evolving of rationalistic sugarcane pricing policy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c) & (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) & (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 493 FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SABHA ON 22-12-2000.

(a) & (b) : The Ministry of Agriculture has reported that information on sugarcane stocks with the growers is not available. However, the production of sugarcane is estimated to be of the order of 3093.07 lakh tonnes during 1999-2000 crop year as against 2957.25 lakh tonnes and 2795.41 lakh tonnes during 1998-99 and 1997-98 crop years respectively. A Statement indicating the State-wise production of sugarcane is enclosed.

The Government of India fixes the factory-wise minimum price of sugarcane for each sugar season under the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966. The range of minimum price of sugarcane fixed by the Government during the last three sugar seasons is given below:

Sugar Season Range of minimum price (In Rs./Quintal)

1997-98	48.45 - 79.05
1998-99	52.70 - 83.08
1999-2000	56.10 - 85.80
2000-2001	59.50 - 96.60

The minimum price of sugarcane is fixed by the Government of India on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), which is an expert body in the field of pricing of agriculture products.

(c) & (d) : The Government has received representations from the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) suggesting, inter alia, rationalization of sugarcane prices and acceptance of the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee on Sugarcane Pricing Policy. The recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are under consideration of the Government.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 493 FOR ANSWER IN THE SABHA ON 22-12-2000.

STATE-WISE PRODUCTION OF SUGARCANE

Estimates of Production during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (In lakh tonnes)

States/UT

1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000

Andhra Pradesh	139.55	166.846	187.93
Assam	12.875	12.236	12.45
Bihar	49.599	52.188	54.3
Goa	0.624	0.64	0.65
Gujarat	118.362	135.663	143.09
Haryana	75.5	68.8	81.36
Himachal Pradesh	1.391	1.202	1.24
Jammu & Kashmsir	0.065	0.06	0.01
Karnataka	283.327	284.54	297.29
Kerala	5.481	4.064	4.36
Madhya Pradesh	16.317	19.73	21.73
Maharashtra	381.743	471.511	567.44
Manipur	0.154	0.154	0.15
Meghalaya	0.023	0.02	0.02
Mizoram	0.075	0.079	0.08
Nagaland	0.5	0.68	0.61
Orissa	11.44	14.695	10.98
Punjab	71.5	61.3	68.85
Rajasthan	11.587	10.783	8
Tamil Nadu	301.836	466.728	392.03
Tripura	0.58	0.43	0.5
Uttar Pradesh	1292.667	1163.028	1220.09
West Bengal	18.257	20.019	18.06
A&N Islands	0.048	0.047	0.05
Pondicherry	1.913	1.812	1.8
All India	2795.414	2957.255	3093.07