

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1425
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009
PACKAGE TO SUGARCANE FARMERS
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give some special package to the sugarcane farmers with a view to bringing them out of the debt trap and also enable them to use and assimilate modern agricultural technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): No, Madam. However, for increasing the production and productivity of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems Areas (SUBACS) covered under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, is implemented in 22 States/Union Territories namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Pondicherry.

(b) & (c): Under the scheme, assistance is provided for the multiplication of planting material, supply of water saving devices like drip irrigation, supply of farm implements and machinery, pest control measures, as well as transfer of improved production technology through field demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers etc.

Besides, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is providing soft loans to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for cane development in mill areas for production of planting materials, irrigation purposes, incentive to farmers for switching over to improved varieties, ratoon management, tissue culture laboratories etc.