

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:419

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

SUGARCANE CULTIVATION

Kishor Shri Kamal ;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any decline in the area of sugarcane cultivation has been recorded in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the area under sugarcane cultivation and to encourage farmers to grow sugarcane;
- (d) whether Government proposes to increase the productivity of sugarcane; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**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) & (b): The area sown under sugarcane during the last few years has been following a fluctuating trend. After attaining a peak of 51.51 lakh hectares during 2006-07, it declined to 42.02 lakh hectares during 2009-10 (4th advance estimates released on 19-07-2010). However, during the current year, i.e., 2010-11, preliminary information received from the State Governments shows area under sugarcane to be higher by about 13% as compared to the last year. State-wise details of area under sugarcane during 2007-08 to 2010-11 are given in the Annexure.

(c) to (e): To increase production, productivity and area under sugarcane cultivation in the country, the Government has taken following steps:

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Area (SUBACS) is implemented by Macro Management Mode of Agriculture in various sugarcane growing States. The SUBACS aims to transfer improved production technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing production of planting materials, efficient use of water, treatment of planting materials etc.

The Research Institutes under ICAR are also engaged in conducting basic and applied research for developing suitable new varieties and production & protection technologies.

In order to check shift in cultivable area from sugarcane to other crops and to ensure that cultivation of sugarcane is not rendered unattractive and unprofitable vis-à-vis wheat and paddy, Government has raised the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane to Rs.139.12 per quintal for ensuing sugar season 2010-11 as compared to Rs.129.84 per quintal for the sugar season 2009-10.

During 2009-10, a short-term scheme was announced for cane development under which loans of Rs.1.0 to Rs.2.5 crore at 4% simple rate of interest from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) are made available to sugar factories, depending upon their crushing capacity to be passed on to the farmers at the same rate of interest for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides etc.