

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:458

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

LAND UNDER SUGARCANE CULTIVATION

Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of land under sugarcane cultivation during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the area under sugarcane cultivation is continuously declining;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action plan of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 458 DUE FOR REPLY ON 04-08-2009.

(a) to (c): State-wise details of area under sugarcane cultivation during the last three years, i.e. 2006-07 to 2008-09 are given in the Annexure. It is observed that the area under sugarcane has declined in 2008-09, inter-alia, due to shift to other crops like rice and wheat in some States.

(d): In order to increase production of sugarcane, a centrally sponsored scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS) is being implemented in various sugarcane growing States of the country. The main components of the scheme include field demonstrations, training of farmers & extension workers and assistance for implements, seed multiplication, setting up of heat treatment plants and drip irrigation sets. To give more flexibility to the states and implement the scheme on the basis of states' priorities and requirements, this scheme has been clubbed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture (MMA) development with other 26 schemes. Under the MMA, the scheme is being implemented as per the Work Plan prepared by the concerned States. For most of the components, the pattern of assistance between GOI & State Governments is 90:10. In addition, the Government of India provides 100% financial support for organization of front line demonstrations, national level trainings and breeder seed production through Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities. The scheme is under implementation 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, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry.

Further, 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 rice, the Government has also approved fixation of higher Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for 2009-10 sugar season at Rs.107.76 per quintal as compared to SMP of Rs.81.18 per quintal fixed for the previous sugar season.