

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2257

ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012

SUGARCANE PRODUCTION

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

- (a) the production of sugarcane registered during each of the last three years and the current year along with the area under its cultivation, State-wise;
- (b) the average production of sugarcane in the country in comparison to its average production in the world;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to improve the quality and production of sugarcane;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to promote sugarcane cultivation and to provide prices of sugarcane in commensurate with the prices of sugar?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a): State-wise details of production and area of sugarcane during each of the last three years and the current year, i.e., 2008-09 to 2011-12 are given in the Annexure.

(b): As per reports of FAO for 2010 (latest available), the average production per hectare/productivity of sugarcane in India has been 661.31 quintal/hectare as against the world average productivity of 707.72 quintal/hectare.

(c) & (d): To enhance the production and quality of sugarcane in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Area (SUBACS) under the Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is being implemented 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. Loans are also provided to sugar factories at concessional rates for rearing of seed nurseries, incentive to cultivators to switch over to improved varieties of sugarcane, integrated pest and disease management, irrigation schemes, ratoon management, etc.

The Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore and Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow including their regional research stations are fully engaged in conducting basic and applied research for developing suitable varieties, post harvest and management technologies including biotic and abiotic stresses for improving production and productivity of the sugarcane in the country. In addition, All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with its Cooperating Centres involving State Agricultural Universities is addressing various sugarcane issues in different zones of the country for improving sugarcane production and productivity.

(e): To promote sugarcane cultivation in the country, Government of India has fixed the Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane payable by sugar mills for 2011-12 sugar season at Rs.145.00 per quintal as against the FRP of Rs.139.12 per quintal of sugarcane for 2010-11 sugar season linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs.1.53 per quintal for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. While deciding FRP, the Government takes into account all relevant factors such as cost of inputs as well as the prices of sugar produced from sugarcane.

Further, the Central Government also provides concessional loan at an interest rate of 4% per annum to sugar factories from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for modernization of plant and machinery, expansion of crushing capacity, utilization of by-products viz. bagasse for co-generation of power and molasses for production of ethanol, upgradation of technology and sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management etc.