

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1999  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009  
OUTDATED TECHNOLOGY IN SUGAR PRODUCTION  
Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh

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

- (a) whether outdated machines and technology has adversely affected the productivity and production of sugar in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts being made by the Union Government to encourage use of modern machines and technology for sugar production in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): The outdated machines and technology in sugar factories, wherever it exist, may adversely affect the productivity and production of sugar in the country. Its effect varies from factory to factory depending on the type of machinery in use by the concerned factory. The data pertaining to details of outdated machines and technology with sugar factories is not maintained by the Government.

(c): To encourage use of modern machines and technology for sugar production in the country, the Central Government has created Sugar Development Fund (SDF) in the year 1982 for, inter-alia, rehabilitation and modernization of sugar mills. The Government is providing concessional SDF loans to sugar mills for modernization of plant and machinery at a simple interest of 2% below the "Bank rate" prevalent at the time of disbursement of the loan. [4% per annum as of now].