

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4670
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
SUGAR PRODUCTION
Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

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

- (a) the total quantum of sugarcane crushed and sugar produced during the current season till date vis-a-vis the same period of the preceding sugar season;
- (b) whether any decline has been registered in the production of sugar in some States during the current year; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) The total quantum of sugarcane crushed and sugar produced by the sugar mills in the country upto the end of March, 2013 during the current sugar season 2012-13 vis-a-vis the same period of the preceding sugar season 2011-12 is given below:-

(Provisional)

Period(From 1st October to 31st March)	Sugarcane crushed (in Lac Tons)	Sugar Produced (in Lac Tons)
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2011-12	2296	235
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2012-13	2300	231
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Source: Cane Commissioners of major sugar producing States and Directorate of Sugar.

(b) & (c) The decline in sugar production has been registered mainly in the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka. As per their reports, drought and diversion of cane as fodder in their States has reduced the sugarcane availability for sugar production during current sugar season 2012-13.

The Government of Maharashtra has informed that in order to improve the productivity of sugarcane and to overcome the shortage of seed for plantation in 2013-14 sugar season, activities relating to extensive training programme of the agriculture officers of the sugar mills and the State Agricultural Department staff have been taken up. The Government of Karnataka is providing subsidy on drip irrigation system for sugarcane and training to the cane growers as well as field staff of the sugar mills for improvement in production and productivity of sugarcane in the State. Further, the Central Government provides concessional loans to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management etc.