

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3012

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009

SUGARCANE PRODUCTION

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

- (a) the details of the sugarcane production during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the sugarcane production is likely to decline in the current year as compared to the previous year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including Uttar Pradesh, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide relief to sugarcane farmers in view of crop loss;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether drought has affected sugarcane production in the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**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): The State-wise details of production of sugarcane during the years 2006-07 to 2009-10 are given in Annexure.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. As per the 1st advance estimates released on 03-11-2009, the production of sugarcane at all-India level is estimated at 249.48 million tonnes as compared to the production of 273.93 million tonnes

(4th advance estimates) during the previous year. Besides, the effect of drought and other climate conditions on the production of sugarcane, the reasons for decline in sugarcane production are:

# The higher MSP for rice and wheat and some other crops compared to sugarcane distorted the cropping pattern in favour of rice and wheat.

# There has been delay and large amount of arrears of cane price payment to farmers by sugarcane mills particularly during the year 2007-08 resulting in decrease in sugarcane production during subsequent years.

# There has been also diversion of sugarcane towards the production of gur and khandsari units resulting in less sugar production.

(d) & (e): The Central Government has fixed the Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane payable by sugar mills for the sugar season 2009-10 at Rs. 129.84 per quintal linked to basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 1.37 per quintal for every 0.1% increase in the recovery above that level. The FRP is substantially higher than the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugar season 2008-09 which was Rs. 81.18 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs. 0.90 for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 9%.

(f) & (g): Yes, Madam. The drought has adversely affected the productivity of sugarcane which has declined from 62.32 tonnes per hectare during 2008-09 (4th advance estimates) to 59.71 tonnes per hectare during 2009-10 (1st advance estimates), resulting in decline in total production of sugarcane in the country.

The Government has provided additional allocation of power from the Central Pool and diesel subsidy to save the standing crops in the field; provided appropriate agricultural advisories including positioning of inputs, use of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Macro Management in Agriculture (MMA) to create agricultural infrastructure and facilitate adoption of crop specific strategies to achieve higher production.