GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1473 ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014 PRODUCTION OF SUGARCANE Dwivedi Shri Harish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production of sugarcane has declined in the major sugarcane producing States of the country during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of measures taken by the Government to check the decline in the production of sugarcane and financial assistance provided to farmers to increase the production of sugarcane in the country during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

- (a) & (b): Depending upon the rainfall situation, adverse weather and temperature conditions, availability of water in reservoirs, irrigation facilities, use of quality inputs etc. and shift in the area on account of comparative profitability of other competing crops, production of sugarcane in the major sugarcane growing States in the country has been fluctuating. State- wise details of production of sugarcane in the country during the last three years and the current year are given in the Annexure.
- (c): To promote cultivation of sugarcane in the country, Government of India has approved implementation of Crop Development Programme under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) -Commercial Crops by following cropping systems approach for sugarcane crop. Under this programme, farmers are encouraged to improve productivity of sugarcane through use of proper crop rotation, multiple cropping systems, inter-cropping etc. The NFSM-Commercial Crops (Sugarcane) is being implemented in 13 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand and Central agencies like Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) etc. Government of India has allocated an amount of Rs.800/- lakh under National Food Security Mission-Commercial Crops (Sugarcane) during 2014-15.

The Central Government also provides loans to sugar factories at concessional rate of interest at 2% below the bank rate prevailing on the date of disbursement for development of sugarcane in their respective areas by setting up heat treatment plants, rearing of seed nurseries, pest control measures, incentives to cultivators to switch over to improved varieties of sugarcane, etc. Besides, grants are also given from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) to established institutions connected with sugar industries for carrying out research in any field related to sugarcane.

Further, to ensure remunerative price to sugarcane growers in the country, the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) fixed by Government of India has also been increased over the years.