

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:215  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006  
PACKAGE FOR SUGARCANE FARMERS  
Manvendra Singh Shri

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

- (a) whether a high level meeting was convened in the year 2003 in Delhi for providing a relief package to the sugarcane growers in view of their outstanding dues;
- (b) if so, the decision taken therein;
- (c) the follow-up action taken in this regard so far;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to constitute any committee to look into the problems of the sugarcane growers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 215 DUE FOR REPLY ON 6TH MARCH, 2006.

(a) to (c): A meeting was held by the then Price Minister in July, 2003 to discuss the issues relating to arrears due to sugarcane farmers. In the meeting it was decided that Government of India will provide one time package for the year 2002-03 on certain terms and conditions to mitigate the hardship of the sugarcane farmers who had not been paid the cane arrears by private mills arising out of difference between State Advised Prices (SAP) announced by the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttaranchal, Punjab and Haryana and Statutory Minimum Prices (SMP) announced by the Government of India. As per terms and conditions of the assistance, the Government of Uttaranchal and Bihar were provided with an amount of Rs.45.54 crores and Rs.18.8588 crores respectively as a one time package. The Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted the proposal for financial assistance of Rs.521.2275 crores. However, since the State had not accepted the terms and conditions of the package, funds were not released. The terms and conditions of the package were not acceptable to the Governments of Punjab and Haryana either. Therefore, these State Governments did not submit any proposal for availing of the assistance.

(d)&(e): No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.