

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2580
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
AVAILABILITY OF SUGARCANE
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

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

- (a) whether there is sufficient availability of sugarcane to cater to the requirement of sugar industry and to meet the demand of sugar in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to ensure the sufficient supply of sugarcane to sugar mills;
- (c) whether the farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government to ensure that farmers get remunerative price of their produce?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) & (b): In the 1st Advance Estimates of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation(DAC), released in September, 2014, the sugarcane production has been estimated at 3427.88 lac tons during the current sugar season 2014-15 which is sufficient to meet the requirements of sugar industry and demand of sugar in the country. However, the sugarcane availability to individual mills may differ from State to State depending upon the production of sugarcane in the State. The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 has necessary provisions to regulate supply of sugarcane by growers to the sugar mills. The State Governments also have enacted legislations or issued orders regulating supply of cane in their areas and farmers supply cane to the sugar mills as per the agreement between them or through the cane cooperative societies.

(c) & (d): The Central Government fixes the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and after consultations with State Governments and other stakeholders. The FRP is the benchmark price below which no sugar mill can purchase sugarcane from the farmers. The FRP for the current sugar season 2014-15 has been fixed at Rs.220/- per quintal linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5 % subject to a premium of Rs.2.32 per quintal for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, also contains necessary provisions for timely payment of cane price to the farmers for sugarcane supplied by them to sugar mills. The powers for enforcing the provisions relating to payment of cane price dues are delegated and vested with the State Governments who have the necessary field formations. The Central Government has from time to time advised the State Governments/UTs to ensure timely payment of cane dues to the farmers and to take action against the defaulting sugar mills