

(Uttar Pradesh); Alamadhi, Avadi District (Tamil Nadu); Chiplima, Sambalpur District (Orissa); Sunabeda, Koraput District (Orissa); Hessarghatta, Bangalore (Karnataka); Suratgarh, Sriganganagar District (Rajasthan) and Dhamrod, Surat District (Gujarat).

(b) All the seven farms are functional at present.

(c) Three farms located at Almadhi (Tamil Nadu), Chiplima (Orissa) and Suratgarh (Rajasthan) have been proposed for closure by three Expert Committees.

(d) Closure has been recommended in view of extensive encroachments of farms land, poor off-take of animals produced in these farms, prevailing disease status; below standard performance of cattle on account of inadequate fodder and water availability at these farms.

### **Sugarcane production**

†841. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of sugarcane has been declining in the country for last few years;

(b) if so, the production of sugarcane in 2004-05 in comparison to the production during the year 2000-01;

(c) whether it is also a fact that per hectare production of sugarcane has decreased during above years;

(d) if so, year-wise production rate of sugarcane during above two years; and

(e) the reasons for low level of total production of sugarcane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The production of sugarcane reached an all time record level of 299.3 million tonnes in 1999-2000 and then gradually declined over the subsequent years.

(b) While in 2000-01 the production of sugarcane was 296.0 million

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

tonnes, it declined to 235.4 million tonnes in 2004-05 (first advance estimates).

(c) and (d) The per hectare production of sugarcane has declined since 2000-01. The details are given below:

(In Tonnes per hectare)

Crop	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04\$	2004-05*
Sugarcane	68.58	67.37	64.56	59.12	60.17

\* As per the first advance estimates for the year 2004-05.

\$ As per the fourth advance estimates for the year 2003-04.

(e) The following factors are responsible for low level of production of sugarcane:

1. Low and uneven distribution of rainfall in time and space (drought conditions) adversely affecting tillering and growth of sugarcane.
2. Due to unprecedented drought conditions, the quantum of millable cane and individual cane weight has drastically reduced which adversely affected overall cane productivity.
3. The area under sugarcane declined from 4.36 million hectares in 2002-03 to 4.00 million hectares in 2003-04 which has further contributed to overall low production.
4. Damage of sugarcane in North Bihar due to droughts in initial stages and flood during subsequent growth phase.
5. Severe infestation of wholly aphid particularly in tropical area (in many districts of Maharashtra and Karnataka).

### Study report of suicide by farmers

†842. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the study report published by Dr. V. Ratna and Dr. S. Glao of "Centre for Economic

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