

Encouragement for sugarcane production

†1406. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to promote sugarcane production to contain the continuous rise in the prices of sugar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of production and consumption of sugar during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to increase the sugarcane production in the country, Government of India is implementing a programme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Area (SUBACS) under Centrally Sponsored Macro Management Mode of Agriculture scheme. Apart from this, under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the State Governments have been given flexibility to choose their priorities for formulation of the crop development projects including sugarcane. All the above programmes are focused on propagation of quality planting material, transfer of technology, knowledge upgradation and mechanization etc. for increasing productivity of sugarcane crop. Government is also providing loan at concessional rates of interest to the sugar mills, under Sugar Development Fund (SDF) statutorily maintained and managed by Department of Food and Public Distribution, for development of sugarcane in their respective-areas.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The estimated production and consumption of sugar during last three years is as under:

Particulars	(Qty in lac tones)		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11(P)
Production of Sugar	147.00	188.00	243.50
Estimated release for internal consumption	230.80	208.78	208.00
		+ 3.2 ##	

Direct import consumption by bulk consumers.

(P) Provisional.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.