

Payment of dues to sugarcane growing farmers of Haryana

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

(a) the detail of sugarcane growing farmers in the country who have not been paid their dues during the last four years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has paid Fair Remunerative Price (FRP) to the farmers, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including the State of Haryana;

(c) the payment of dues by sugar mills in Haryana to the farmers and the details of arrears if any;

(d) whether any measures have been taken by Government to ensure that the sugarcane growing farmers are paid in time; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Central Government fixes Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) which is a benchmark price below which no sugar mill can pay to sugarcane growing farmers. However, some States announce State Advised Price (SAP), including State of Haryana, which is generally higher than FRP. Further, it is the statutory responsibility of concerned mill to pay the cane price dues of farmers. As per information received from respective States, State-wise dues of sugarcane growing farmers, on FRP and SAP basis during the last four sugar seasons and current sugar season, as on 05.02.2019, is given in Statement (*See below*). Government does not maintain farmer-wise data of cane price arrears.

(c) Government of Haryana has reported that there is no outstanding cane price arrears of last four sugar seasons. For current sugar season 2018-19, as on 05.02.2019, against total cane price dues payable of ₹ 799 crores, ₹ 407 crores on FRP basis and ₹ 549 crores on SAP basis is outstanding.

(d) and (e) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 stipulates payment of cane price within 14 days of supply, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days is payable. The powers to enforce the provisions of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 with regard to payment of cane dues of farmers is mainly vested with the State Governments as they have necessary field formation for its implementation. Central Government from time to time issues advisory to the state Governments for ensuring clearance of cane price

arrears of farmers and to take action against defaulting mills and also review the position through meetings and video conferences.

Further, with a view to improve the liquidity position of sugar mills enabling them to clear cane price arrears of farmers, the Government has taken the following measures during last few months:—

- (i) In order to prevent cash loss and to facilitate sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers in time, the Government has fixed a minimum selling price of sugar at ₹ 29/kg. for sale at factory gate in domestic market, below which no sugar mill can sell sugar.
- (ii) Extending Assistance to sugar mills @ ₹ 5.50/quintal of cane crushed for sugar season 2017-18 to offset the cost of cane amounting to about ₹ 1540 crore.
- (iii) Created buffer stock of 30 LMT in sugar season 2017-18 for which Government will reimburse carrying cost of ₹ 1175 crore towards maintenance of buffer stock.
- (iv) Extending assistance to sugar mills @ ₹ 13.88/quintal of cane crushed for sugar season 2018-19 to offset the cost of cane amounting to about ₹ 4163 crore.
- (v) Extending assistance to sugar mills for defraying expenditure towards internal transport, freight, handling and other charges to facilitate export of sugar from the country in sugar season 2018-19 amounting to about ₹ 1375 crore.
- (vi) Government has also notified new National Policy on Bio-Fuels, 2018 under which sugarcane juice has been allowed for production of ethanol. Further, the Government has fixed remunerative price of ethanol produced from C-Heavy molasses and B-Heavy molasses/sugarcane juice separately for supply under EBP during ethanol season 2018-19.

Statement

Dues of sugarcane farmers in the last four years and current year, year-wise and State-wise (as on 05.02.2019)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2018-19		2017-18		2016-17		2015-16	2014-15 and earlier years including SAP	Total Arrears	
		On FRP basis	On SAP basis	On FRP basis	On SAP basis	On FRP basis	On SAP basis			On FRP basis	On SAP basis
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Bihar	672	672	80	80	1	1	0	38	791	791
2.	Haryana	407	549	0	0	0	0	0	0	407	549
3.	Punjab	415	471	0	296	0	0	0	0	415	767
4.	Uttarakhand	321	383	98	224	0	0	0	25	419	632
5.	Uttar Pradesh	7128	9299	0	1126	0	53	0	121	7128	10599
6.	Andhra Pradesh	260	260	18	18	0	0	1	0	279	279
7.	Telangana	215	215	0	0	0	0	0	0	215	215
8.	Gujarat	426	426	1	1	17	17	5	13	462	462
9.	Maharashtra	4841	4841	62	62	3	3	53	144	5103	5103
10.	Karnataka	3830	3830	17	17	0	0	21	16	3884	3884
11.	Tamil Nadu	341	341	87	87	17	378	584	550	1579	1940

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	10	10	0	11	21	21
13.	Chhattisgarh	41	41	2	2	0	0	0	0	43	43
14.	Odisha	0	0	7	7	2	2	0	3	12	12
15.	Madhya Pradesh	232	232	7	7	6	6	2	0	247	247
16.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		19129	21560	379	1927	56	470	666	921	21005	25544

566 *Written Ans. to Std. and...* [RAJYA SABHA]

...the 8 February, 2019