

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1215  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022

**DELAY IN PAYMENT TO SUGARCANE GROWING FARMERS**

1215 # SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

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

- (a) whether the sugar mills are not paying the dues to sugarcane growing farmers as per the rules due to which sugarcane growing farmers are discouraged;
- (b) the number of such sugar mills in the country ignoring the rules;
- (c) the outstanding payment for sugarcane to the farmers during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (d) whether it is a fact that sugar mills are not paying interest to the farmers for delay in payment for sugarcane; and
- (e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) and (b): As per the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the sugar mills are required to make payment of cane price to the farmers within 14 days of supply of cane to the concerned sugar mills, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days is also payable. The powers for enforcing the provisions of the Sugarcane Control (Order), 1966 have been delegated and vested with the State Governments/UTs Administrations who have necessary field formations. Payment of cane dues to farmers is also a continuous process.

Due to various policies and timely interventions of Government of India, area under sugarcane cultivation has increasing trend indicating that more farmers are adopting the crop and satisfied with the returns from the crop.

However, some sugar mills could not adhere to the time line in making payments of cane dues to concerned cane farmers due to their poor financial conditions. The Cane Commissioners of the respective States are monitoring the cane price payment position of sugar factories on periodical basis and in case of delay in payments, suitable action is taken by them.

(c): The State-wise and year-wise outstanding sugarcane dues to farmers during last five years is given at Annexure.

(d)&(e): As indicated in reply to the (a) and (b) parts of the question as above, the concerned sugar mills are required to pay the interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days.

The Central Government also monitors the status of payment of cane dues to farmers regularly and coordinate with State Government officials to ensure early clearance of pending cane dues.

Due to such efforts, more than 97.76% of cane dues of Sugar Season 2021-22 and more than 99.9% dues of SS 2020-21 have been cleared by sugar mills.

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## ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1215 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 16.12.2022 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

Statement showing State-wise and year-wise outstanding payment for sugarcane to the farmers during the last five years (In Crore of Rs.)							
S. No.	Name of State	2017-18 & earlier	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Total
1	Uttar Pradesh	137	0	0	9	2406	2552
2	Maharashtra	205	45.48	0	68.48	71.02	389.98
3	Karnataka	3	4	0	0	0	7
4	Gujarat	54	0	0	0	5.91	59.91
5	Tamil Nadu	1380	73	0	0	221	1674
6	Bihar	18	50	39	4	0	111
7	Haryana	0	0	0	0	48.1	48.1
8	Punjab	0	0	31	6.28	6.7	43.98
9	Madhya Pradesh	8	0	0	0	5	13
10	Uttarakhand	36	108	0	0	34	178
11	Andhra Pradesh	1	22.03	35.92	0	4.43	63.38
12	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Odisha	3	0	0	0	0	3
	All India	1845	302.51	105.92	87.76	2802.16	5143.35

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