

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2653
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 04TH AUGUST, 2026

SUGARCANE CULTIVATION

2653. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the continuous decline in sugarcane cultivation in Tirupati district;
- (b) the district-wise area, production and productivity of sugarcane during the last five years, in State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for the decline, including inadequate irrigation, rising cultivation costs, delayed payments and labour shortages;
- (d) whether any special assistance is proposed for revival through improved varieties, mechanization, micro-irrigation and strengthening sugar mills; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (e): The district-wise area, production and productivity of sugarcane during the last five years, in the State of Andhra Pradesh, including Tirupati district, is given at Annexure. The Government of India is implementing various schemes for enhancing sugarcane production and revival through improved varieties, mechanization, micro-irrigation and strengthening sugar mills. The details of some major schemes are given below:

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is developing high-yielding varieties of sugarcane for the state of Andhra Pradesh. ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute (SBI) has recently identified an early maturing, high-yielding, and red-rot and smut resistant variety Co09004, which is ready for release.

The sugarcane development programme is being implemented under National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) (erstwhile NFSM) in 13 major sugarcane growing states, including Andhra Pradesh, from 2014-15 to enhance production and productivity of sugarcane wherein thrust has been given on transfer of technology through demonstrations and training in order to extend benefits to the farmers.

The Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is being implemented w.e.f 2014-15 through States/UTs Governments, including Andhra Pradesh, which involves the use of machinery and technology to carry out tasks that were traditionally performed manually. Key components of the crop production system including sugarcane—such as land preparation, sowing, irrigation, harvesting, and post-harvest operations—are now executed using appropriate machines. This not only enhances operational efficiency but also significantly reduces the demand for manual labour. SMAM is now being implemented under the umbrella of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The scheme aims at 'reaching the unreached' by bringing the small and marginal farmers at the core, including women farmers, and giving the benefits of farm mechanization, by Promoting 'Custom Hiring Centers', creating hubs for hi-tech &

high-value farm equipments, distribution of various agricultural equipments, creating awareness among stakeholders through demonstration and capacity building activities. Under this scheme, during the period from 2014-15 to 2026-27 (as on date), the central funds amounting to Rs. 955.28 Crores have been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh and 299815 number of machines have been distributed on subsidy to individual farmers, 7108 CHCs, 62 Hi-tech Hubs & 3428 FMBs have been established.

Per Drop More Crop (PDMC), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) (is being implemented in the Country, including Andhra Pradesh, from the year 2015-16. The PDMC Scheme focuses on enhancing water-use efficiency at farm-level through Micro Irrigation technologies; namely, Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems. Micro Irrigation helps in water-saving as well as reduced fertilizer usage, labour expenses, other input costs and overall income enhancement of farmers. The Scheme emphasises to promote micro irrigation in water intensive/consuming crops, including sugarcane, to optimize water requirement. Under the PDMC Scheme, financial assistance is provided to farmers for installation of micro irrigation systems @ 55 % and 45 % of the unit cost to small & marginal farmers and other farmers, respectively. From 2015-16 to 2026-27 (so far), an area of 11.75 lakh hectares has been covered under Micro Irrigation in the State of Andhra Pradesh under PDMC Scheme with total release of Central Assistance being Rs. 3424.35 crores.

To encourage the farmers for cultivation of sugarcane, Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane is fixed for every sugar season, based upon the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in consultation with all stake holders having regard to various factors. The FRP so fixed by the Central Government is the benchmark remunerative price, below which no sugar mill can purchase cane from the cane growers.

Sugarcane is procured by the sugar mills at the FRP fixed by the Central Government. Power of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 to regulate distribution and movement of sugarcane has been delegated to the State Governments. As per the provision of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the State Government may reserve area where sugarcane is grown for a sugar factory and direct a sugarcane grower or a sugarcane growers' co-operative society, supplying sugarcane to a factory, and the factory concerned to enter into an agreement to supply or purchase, as the case may be, the quantity of sugarcane so fixed.

To maintain uninterrupted crushing operations, sugar mills plan their daily crushing requirements in advance and coordinate with the farmers to ensure timely harvest and supply of sugarcane.

Further, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), under the Ministry of Cooperation provides financial assistance for the revival and modernization of cooperative sugar mills. NCDC implemented "Grant in Aid to NCDC for strengthening of Cooperative Sugar Mills" from 2023-24 to 2024-25, under which ₹10005.00 Cr loans were provided to Cooperative sugar mills.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q No. 2653 due for reply 04.08.2026

Andhra Pradesh District-wise Area, Production and Productivity of Sugarcane

Source: DA&FW

District	Area (Thousand Hectares)					Production (Thousand Tonnes)					Productivity (Kg./Ha.)				
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Alluri Sitharama Raju			0.05	0.04	0.06			3.34	2.86	4.64			71021	68000	77000
Anakapalli			15.91	8.45	5.89			936.03	546.88	420.19			58822	64705	71346
Ananthapuramu	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.05	6.07	2.24	3.18	6.66	5.51	97968	86077	99313	95086	103642
Annamayya			0.12	0.08	0.01			11.37	7.42	1.37			98852	95128	97571
Bapatla			0.12	0.05	0.05			9.40	4.40	4.97			79000	88000	99000
Chittoor	11.46	10.55	7.82	6.12	5.91	1044.99	1019.66	734.22	582.48	581.43	91154	96678	93866	95244	98372
East Godavari	1.72	0.92	1.08	0.90	0.65	132.11	71.83	95.22	67.26	53.44	76718	77906	88409	74979	82160
Eluru			1.44	1.34	0.51			138.07	127.47	51.93			96018	94972	102446
Guntur	0.16	0.15	0.08	0.08	0.04	14.45	14.58	5.85	5.57	3.16	91456	95268	71317	73263	82789
Kakinada			0.68	0.68	0.34			60.38	48.01	28.78			89049	70284	84312
Krishna	4.46	4.38	3.26	2.18	1.95	403.34	441.64	353.33	239.27	235.08	90497	100807	108551	109797	120279
Kurnool	0.19	0.13	0.16	0.10	0.09	20.40	14.30	15.37	9.73	9.36	109661	111750	96081	95412	102451
Nandyal			0.02	0.01	0.00			1.75	1.05	0.19			96944	95273	97000
Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao			0.64	0.43	0.34			46.17	32.67	29.01			72027	75796	85242
Palnadu			0.05	0.01	0.00			3.08	0.88	0.20			68333	88000	99000
Parvathipuram Manyam			1.07	0.89	0.97			79.78	68.62	85.71			74837	77001	88571
Prakasam	0.17	0.18	0.08	0.02	0.01	12.49	13.73	5.32	1.26	1.13	74760	76721	65667	84000	93500
Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	0.02	0.01				0.68	0.55				31000	79000			
Sri Sathya Sai			0.02	0.02	0.01			1.95	1.43	0.51			92667	95200	101800
Srikakulam	3.94	3.59	0.95	0.69	0.71	284.15	251.02	85.26	52.27	61.29	72064	70000	90222	75965	86123
Tirupati			2.12	1.90	1.22			191.73	173.82	120.33			90481	91572	98663
Visakhapatnam	23.63	19.59	0.04	0.02	0.01	1514.72	1193.90	2.71	1.43	1.00	64093	60945	67750	68000	77000
Vizianagaram	5.95	4.88	4.51	3.27	3.01	388.77	379.69	280.40	219.72	273.18	65307	77852	62228	67207	90653
West Godavari	3.11	1.98	0.09	0.10	0.11	307.08	195.00	6.68	7.73	8.89	98770	98435	71021	76515	78363
Y.S.R. Kadapa	0.07	0.13	0.09	0.05	0.04	5.35	8.65	8.30	4.97	4.01	76443	69200	95448	95538	102333
