

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

**Questionnaire for the Price Policy Report for Sugarcane for the
2009-2010 Season**

1.(a) (i) Give area under sugarcane in the last five years and the estimates for the current year.

Sl.No.	Year	Area under cultivation (in lakh ha)	Area under sugarcane (in lakh ha)	% area under sugarcane to total area	%increase/decrease in sugarcane area over previous year
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

(ii) What are your observations on increasing/decreasing trend in the area under sugarcane?

(iii) Is there a need to increase or decrease the area under sugarcane? If so, what steps are being taken up in this regard?

(b)(i) Give production of sugarcane in the last **five** years and expected production in the current year.

Sl.No.	Year	Production of sugarcane (In lakh tonnes)	% Increase/or decrease over previous year
1.	2.	3.	4.

(ii) What are your observations on the production trend? If there is any abnormal increase/or decrease in production of sugarcane in a particular year. If so, the reasons for the same may be indicated.

(c)(i) Give details of productivity of sugarcane in the last **five** years and estimated productivity in the current year.

Sl.No.	Year	Productivity (In tonnes/ha)	% Increase/or decrease over previous year
1.	2.	3.	4.

(ii) If the productivity shows the declining/stagnant trend, then please indicate the reasons for the same. Also indicate the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the productivity.

(iii) Comment on sustainability of sugarcane production and region specific issues thereof?

(d) Also supply estimates of Area, Production and Yield of sugarcane, such as, Cane Commissioner's estimates which normally differ from those of the Agriculture/Statistics Department. Is there a way to reconcile the differences in the estimates?

(e)(i) Give approximate area under early maturing, mid and late maturing varieties for the last two years and current year.

Sl.No.	Year	Area (In lakh ha.)			Percentage		
		Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.

(ii) Is the mix of varieties in terms of maturity consistent with the economic length of the crushing season? If not, the steps taken to have optimum mix of varieties.

(f)(i) Give proportion of area under ratoon and planted crop from 2003-04 to 2007-2008 and the target for 2008-2009 season.

Sl.No.	Year	Area under sugarcane (in lakh ha)	Area under ratoon crop (in lakh ha)	Area under planted crop (in lakh ha)	% of area under ratoon crop (in lakh ha)	% of area under planted crop (in lakh ha)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.

(ii) Indicate the average yield per hectare under ratoon and planted crop for the last two years and current year?

Sl. No.	Year	Yield of ratoon crop (In tonnes/ha)	Yield of planted crop (In tonnes/ha)
1.	2.	3.	4.

(iii) What steps have been taken for increasing ratoon productivity?

2. Has there been drought/flood conditions in your state affecting the production and productivity adversely? If so, give details indicating the extent of damage caused to sugarcane production and the steps taken to minimize the losses caused due to drought/flood conditions.

3. (a)(i) Describe in detail the incidence of major pests and diseases affecting the sugarcane production/productivity and the steps taken to combat such pests and diseases during the last three years and current year.

(ii) Has any pests and diseases developed resistance to available pesticide / weedicide. If so, the details thereof.

(iii) Indicate the arrangements made to supply genuine pesticides to cane growers and the steps taken to prevent sale/supply of spurious pesticides?

(iv) Has any analysis been undertaken/proposed to be undertaken to find out the pesticide residue in sugarcane juice/sugar?

4(a) Give critical assessment of the working of the centrally sponsored scheme "Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS)". What are your suggestions to bring improvement in the scheme?

(b) What are the other schemes implemented/proposed to be implemented by the State Government/State Agriculture Universities/other Research Institutions/sugar industry for the development of sugarcane?

5.(a) Give your comments on the implementations of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of sugarcane. What improvements are required in the scheme?

(b) Whether insurance cover is limited/should be limited only to bonded cane (if premium is being paid/to be paid by sugar factory) or un-bonded cane also.

6.(a)(i) Give a list of the existing and newly developed high yielding/high sucrose content varieties in your state with details of sucrose content, yield, sowing and harvesting time, recovery percentage and the period of maturity and their susceptibility to diseases.

(ii) Indicate source-wise current availability of certified seeds vis-à-vis requirements. Please also indicate how the requirements have been calculated.

(b) Do you feel that the planting of sugarcane through tissue culture technique is a better option? Is this technique cost effective? If so, the steps taken to promote planting of sugarcane through tissue culture technique.

7. What are your views on use of genetically modified seeds in case of sugarcane plantations?

8. Indicate your views on contract farming in the context of (i) its impact on increasing the production and productivity of sugarcane; and (ii) in

ensuring committed supply of cane to mills and prompt payment of prices to the farmers.

9.(i) Indicate production of sugar sector-wise, gur and khandsari in your state for the last five years and estimated production during the current season so far;

ii) If there is high increase/decrease in production of sugar, gur and khandsari, the reasons for the same may please be indicated. The reasons for fall in sugar production in the last and current sugar season may please be indicated.

10 (a)(i) Indicate sector-wise cane crushed, sugar produced and recovery rate sector-wise during the last five seasons and the current season so far;

(ii) Was any quantity of sugarcane left uncrushed due to early closure of mills? If so, what was the mode of disposal of such left out sugarcane?

(iii) If there is a decline/disparity in sugar recovery in sugar mills of cooperative, private or state sector, the reasons for the same may be indicated;

(b) Indicate the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the recovery percentage of the sugar mills, gur and khandsari units;

(c) Government of India has allowed import of raw sugar which is being mixed with sugarcane juice for processing. How has recovery rate been determined in such cases?

11.(a)(i) Give Average statutory minimum prices (SMP) and additional cane price(ACP) under clause 5A, state advised prices (SAP), if any, and final prices paid for sugarcane by sugar factories sector-wise during the last five seasons and current season;

In Rs./quintal

Sl.No.	Season	Average SMP	Average ACP	Total	Average SAP	Average Final Price
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.

(ii) How do these prices compare with those paid by khandsari and gur manufacturers?

(iii) Is there any instance of sugarcane prices paid lower than the SMP, if so the details of the action taken against defaulting sugar units and corrective measures taken by the State Government

(iv) Whether the State Government determines the factory-wise Additional Cane Price payable under Clause 5A of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966? If not, the reasons thereof.

(v) There has been delay in announcement of 'L' factor by the Government of India resulting delay in the determination of additional cane price. How can the system be improved so that the additional cane price orders could be issued immediately after the accounts of sugar mills get audited.

(b) (i) What are the various State Acts applicable to regulate sugarcane/sugar economy in your State?

(ii) Furnish the cane price arrears sector-wise as on 31st May for the last five seasons and for the current season.

Sl.No.	Season	Amount payable	Amount paid	Percentage	Date on arrears were fully cleared	Reasons for arrears
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.

(iii) What measures have been taken to liquidate cane price arrears?

(iv) What are your suggestions to ensure timely payment of cane price?

(c)(i) It is often argued that realizations from molasses and bagasse should be taken into account for determination of cane price. What are your views in the matter? How these realizations could be determined and taken into account for determination of cane price?

(ii) There is a view that the SMP should be a single uniform price i.e. all sugarcane growers should get a single price irrespective of the recovery level of the concerned sugar factory. An opposite view is that a single uniform price will not encourage the cane growers to grow sucrose rich varieties. What are your views in the matter?

12. (a)(i) Indicate the rates of various central and state taxes/cess fees levied on sugarcane, gur, khandsari and sugar;

(ii) The amount collected and spent for sugarcane development in the state during the past three years;

(b) Has State Government levied entry tax on entry of sugar from other states? If so, when this tax was levied and what are the tax rates? Whether levy sugar for distribution in the PDS has been exempted from entry tax. If not, the reasons therefore.

13(i) Indicate the month-end wholesale prices of sugar, gur and khandsari in important markets of the state in the past seasons since 2004-05 and to date for 2008-2009 season.

In Rs./Quintal

Sl.No.	Month	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
	Average					

(ii) Indicate the reasons for any abnormal increase/decrease in prices in any year

(iii) How these compare with the prices in the preceding three seasons. Please give reasons for fluctuations observed in the movement of prices.

14. Give an account of the installed capacity and its percentage utilisation by sugar mills, khandsari and gur units in your state in different sectors (State, Cooperative and Private)

(ii) Indicate the steps taken for updation and modernisation of machinery in these mills during the last three years.

15. Give the progress made towards diversification of sugar industry through value additions to by-products. In this context, indicate the following:

(i) the number of sugar factories (sector-wise) producing alcohol & ethanol their production and per litre realization; the difficulties faced by sugar factories in production and sale of ethanol;

(ii) the number of sugar factories (sector-wise) which have installed/are in the process of installing the cogeneration facilities and their realization from per unit sale of electricity; their difficulties and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to remove such difficulties;

Note: In case information in respect of i), and ii) is not readily available then the exercise may please be initiated to collect the same urgently and the requisite information be sent as early as possible.

16(a) Has the ethanol blending programme been implemented in your state? If not, reasons thereof?

(b) Give your suggestions for ethanol blending as well as the proper methodology for fixing ethanol price.

17. (a) Provide an account of the health of sugar industry in your state, inter-alia indicating the number of sick sugar factories, reasons for their sickness and steps taken to revive such sugar factories.

(b) Supply any documentation on the state of the sugar industry in the form of studies/reports that might have been prepared in this regard.

18.(i) What steps have been taken to encourage production of raw and refined sugar ?

(ii) Indicate your views on promoting and sustaining export of sugar. What are the barriers coming in the way of export of sugar? What measures should be taken to overcome these barriers?

19. (i) What are your view on cane area reservation-abolition/continuation/modification?

(ii) In your opinion what should be the minimum distance between an existing sugar factory and another new sugar factory to be setup, and reasons thereof?

20. Number of khandsari and gur units with their installed capacity in the state during the past 'five years. Give a short historical account of the functioning of these units in your state along with your views regarding their role in promoting or impeding the sugarcane/sugar economy in the state.

21. Give your views on efficacy of futures trading in sugar. How will it be beneficial to sugar industry and cane growers?

22. Give an account of the policy regime governing the pricing and distribution of molasses produced in your state

23. Your suggestion on the level of statutory minimum price of sugarcane for 2009-2010 season linked to 9 percent recovery with full justification.

24. Does the State Government generate estimates of cost of cultivation/production? If so, provide the details of the methodology used and the estimates generated for sugarcane crop for the last three years including the definitions and concepts adopted.

25.(a) Give details of statutory minimum wages for agricultural labour (Rs/man-day) along with the effective dates:

Sl.No.	Years	Rs/man-day	Date of Effectiveness
	2005-2006		
	2006-2007		
	2007-2008		
	2008-09 2009-10 (likely)		

(b) Give details of operation-wise actual wage rates for agricultural labour in different parts of the state (Rs/man-day) for sugarcane.

Sl.No.	Region	Operation	Years			
			2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (likely)
		Ploughing				
		Sowing				
		Weeding				
		Harvesting				
		Retting				
		Others				

26 (a) Give the following information for the current year:

- (i) Cost of supply of electricity per unit for irrigation;
- (ii) Rate of charges per unit of electricity consumed for irrigation
- (iii) Total quantity of electricity unit consumed for irrigation purpose;
- (iv) Amount of budgetary subsidy provided

(b) Indicate revision, if any, in electricity rates/ charges for use in motor/connection for agricultural/ irrigation purposes (per unit/horse power) affected since July, 2002 (with date of effect).

Sl.No.	Particulars	Pre-Revised Rates	Revised Rates	Date of Revision
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

(c) When was the latest revision made in canal irrigation rates in your state? Please give the details in the following format.

Sl.No.	Particulars	Pre-Revised Rates	Revised Rates	Date of Revision
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

(d) What are the primary sources of irrigation and the relative share of lift and flow Irrigation in the total irrigation for sugarcane crop in the state?

(e)(i) What is the total expenditure on irrigation (per hectare) for sugarcane crop during the last 3 years? Also please give the per hectare consumption of diesel in your state for the crop.

(ii) What are the steps taken for improving irrigation efficiency for sugarcane in your State?

(f) Indicate the number of irrigations required/applied for sugarcane and the total expenditure on irrigation (per hectare) for sugarcane during the last three years?

(g) Indicate the consumption of electricity and diesel oil (per hectare) for sugarcane crop during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(h) What is the approximate share of diesel oil lubricants expenditure per hectare on irrigation?

(i) What is the running cost of farm machinery such as (a) tractor/harvesters and pump sets used for irrigation and (b) other purposes alongwith the relative share of important inputs like diesel, lubricants, repairs/ maintenance charges etc. required for their operations.

27. (a) Provide the retail prices (Rs. per kg.) of five important insecticides/pesticides/weedicides during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and the likely prices during 2009-2010.

(b) Indicate the consumption of insecticides/ pesticides (per hectare) for sugarcane crop during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and likely consumption for 2009-2010.

28. Give the approximate prices of cattle feed and fodder that are commonly used in your state. Give details for 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-2010 (likely).

29. Indicate the rates for hiring bullocks (per pair day) and machineries such as tractors etc. used during the last three years.

30. Provide the retail prices of (phosphatic and potassic) fertilizer during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and the likely price for 2009-2010.

31 (a) Indicate per hectare consumption of nutrients and N.P.K. for sugarcane crop during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(b) Was the fertilizer off-take during sugarcane 2007-2008 season upto expectations? If otherwise, factors responsible for this shortfall.

32.(a) What has been the total disbursement of agricultural credit (source wise) to sugarcane farmers in your state during the last 5 years? What has been the rate(s) of interest (by source and by purpose) for these credits?

(b) Give the details of agricultural loans outstanding/over dues by agencies, during the last 5 years.

(c) Has the state government made any assessment of the degree of indebtedness of sugarcane farmers? If so, what are the major findings?

33. Does the state government provide subsidies on agricultural inputs in addition to those provided under centrally sponsored scheme? If so, give details.

34 (a) Is renting out of land prevalent in your state? If so, what are the current rent rates for different categories of cultivable land?

(b) Are there any maximum/minimum rents on land specified in the state? Are these crop-specific? Give details.

35. (a) What are the modes of transportation of sugarcane to mill gate/purchase centre. Give relative proportion of cane transported through these modes and cost of transportation per quintal by different modes.

(b) Whether the mills transport cane on their own upto the mill gate or the cane grower delivers cane to the mills? If both the practices are followed, indicate the respective proportion of cane delivered by sugarcane growers at the mill gate and the purchase centre;

(c) Where the cane is delivered at purchase centre, the average distance, cost of transportation per quintal and the quantity of sugarcane transported from field to the purchase centres and from purchase centres to the mill gate may be indicated.

(d) What is the average transport cost per quintal taking into account the mill gate/purchase centre delivery by different modes.

(e) What is the amount deducted by sugar mills on account of transportation of sugarcane when delivery is received by the mills at the purchase centre;

(f) What is the approximate cost per quintal for harvesting sugarcane? Whether harvesting of cane from field in your state is done by the farmers themselves or by sugar mills. If the sugar mill is doing the harvesting, then whether the mill bears this cost or the sugarcane farmer bears this cost. If the sugarcane farmers bear the cost, then what amount (in Rs. per quintal) was deducted from their cane price in 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons?

(g) What different rebates were allowed to sugar factories in 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons under Clause 3 A of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966? Give details of the amount deducted (rebate-wise) from the SMP in 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons.

(h) Any other information relevant in this context of recommending Statutory Minimum Price for 2009-10 sugar season.