

Pawar: Cane not a water guzzler

Pune, April 21: Strongly reacting to criticism that sugarcane is a water guzzler and is responsible for the drought in Marathwada region, NCP leader and former Union agriculture minister Sharad Pawar on Thursday said such allegations are baseless. He also said he is prepared to speak to the Centre to dispel the belief that sugar millers in Maharashtra are not ready to sell their stocks in anticipation of getting higher prices.

“Sugar factories have been running in Marathwada for more than 20 years without any problems. Why is this issue being raised now?” he asked. “One can’t arrive at any conclusions based on the last two years of drought. I am not a water expert... we have conducted studies to prove this,” he said.

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