

# Poor rains may affect sugarcane yield: Govt

**T**HE deficient monsoon may affect sugarcane productivity and sugar output in the 2012-13 marketing year starting October. However, the sugar production would be enough to meet the

domestic demand, the government said. "As per reports received from major sugar producing states, the deficiency in monsoon in some parts of the country may affect sugarcane yield with consequent reduction in sugar production," food minister K V Thomas said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Rajasthan are facing drought-like situation this year due to poor monsoon so far. Thomas said the government's estimates for kharif crops, including sugarcane, are yet to be released. "However, as per reports received from state governments concerned and also the sugar industry, likely production of sugar in the country will be sufficient to meet the domestic requirement," he added.