

Printed from

**THE TIMES OF INDIA**

---

# UP puts Rs 418 crore in a/cs of sugarcane farmers

TNN | Jun 20, 2020, 07:07 AM IST

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government on Friday transferred Rs 418 crore to the accounts of cane farmers, clearing over Rs 1 lakh crore dues in three years to set the record of highest payment of arrears by any government.

Addressing cane farmers after the transfer of funds, chief minister Yogi Adityanath said the government cleared dues worth Rs 1,00,325 crore in the past three years which was more than what any government paid during its tenure.

“The SP government was able to make a payment of only Rs 95,215 crore in five years. The payment made by our government is also Rs 46,633 crore more than the combined cane price payment of Rs 53,367 crore during 2014-17,” he said.

There are 48 lakh sugarcane farmers and 119 sugar mills in UP. Around 25,000-40,000 sugarcane farmers are associated with each mill and each mill employs 8,000-10,000 people.

“When BSP was in power, it closed down 19 sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh between 2007 and 2012. Similarly, the SP government closed 10 mills from 2012 to 2017 due to which sugarcane farmers faced a huge crisis. When we came to power, we not only revived closed mills but also started new ones,” the CM said, addressing a video conference organised by the department of sugar industry and cane development. An official said though sugar sale was negligible during lockdown, cane price payment of Rs 5,953 crore was made to farmers for the period.