

As *Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Department of Sugarcane Development in between 24<sup>th</sup> of November, 2005 and 13<sup>th</sup> of April, 2008* he initiated the transformation of the sluggish Sugar Industry of Bihar.

- In his debut in the role of a Minister he displayed rare business like acumen coupled with utmost sincerity for the masses. He **conceptualised the Sugar Industry Incentive Policy entailing establishment of Greenfield Sugar Complexes, capacity extension of existing sugar industries and a scheme of Cogeneration and Ethanol production.**
- Within a mere two years of launching this new incentive policy, the sugar industry in Bihar looked headed for a turnaround .Bihar received **proposal worth rupees 20 thousands cores for setting of new sugar complexes. Existing sugar mills witnessed and over 40% expansion in production capacity.**
- Furthering on his economic acumen, he streamlined and initiated **a privatisation policy for 15 sick and closed sugar units in Bihar.** In his short stint in this Department, this process was successfully accomplished for three units.
- He displayed rare sensitivity for the people associated in the sugar cane industry of Bihar. He devoted continuous personal attention to ensure **that long due arrears to cane farmers are cleared in record time.** Payments worth Rs. 8.84 crores pending in the Bihar State Sugar Corporation since 1997 were cleared.
- In the year 2006-07 when farmers were suffering due to a sharp decline in cane prices, he brought forth a '**Sugarcane Price Subsidy Scheme**' costing about Rs. 43 Corers to mitigate there hardships.

During this tenure, he paid special attention to **strengthening economic and social infrastructure in the cane growing areas.** Many training and developments programs for farmers were initiated. A Rs. 5.5 Crores Grant was sanctioned for strengthening the R&D facility at Sugarcane Research Institute Pusa.