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preferential quota to USA at US Dollar 435 per Metric Tonne (FOB).

They have exported the sugar at a price higher than the price at which sugar has been imported by them during 1994.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the total foreign exchange spent in the import of sugar at this stage as imports are still in progress.

Production of Sugar

2426. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether modernisation of sugar mills will increase the production of sugar;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government; and

(c) the estimated production of sugar during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Central Government provides financial assistance to sugar factories on soft terms from the Sugar Development Fund for undertaking modernisation and rehabilitation. Further, a Mission Mode project under the Ministry of Science & Technology, in collaboration with the Ministry of Food, is being taken up to upgrade the technology in 30 selected factories to bring about cost effectiveness in production & serve as demonstration units for other factories.

(c) It is too early to give estimates of sugar production for the sugar season 1994-95 (October-September). [Translation]

Sugar Mills

2427. SHRI MANJAY LAL: SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick sugar mills at present, State-wise;

(b) the number out of them closed down;

(c) the reasons for their closure; and

(d) the steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, companies which become sick have to be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). These provisions have been extended to cover Government companies also. BIFR has intimated that as on 30.6.94 there were 13 cases of sick sugar companies registered with them. A statement showing the State-wise list of such sick sugar companies, as furnished by BIFR, given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) All the above factories are reported working during 1993-94 season, except Salarjung Sugar Mills in Karnataka.

(c) Sickness leading to closure could be due to a variety of factors, such as inadequate cane availability, size, age and condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial competence, excessively high

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cane price not commensurate with sales realisation and various other factors.

(d) Sugar mills have themselves to prepare schemes for rehabilitation/ modernisation and get them approved by the financial institutions. Financial assistance is also available from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rates of interest for such rehabilitation/modernisation schemes, subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down.

STATEMENT

Statement showing Statewise List of Sick Sugar Companies Registered with BIFR as on 30.6.1994

S.No.	State/Company
	ANDHRA PRADESH
1.	Challapalli Sugar
	BIHAR
2.	Champaran Sugar
	KARNATAKA
3.	Davnagare Sugar Company
4.	Salarjung Sugar
5. ·	Gangawati Sugar
	MADHYAPRADESH
6.	Jiwaji Rao Sugar
	MAHARASHTRA
7.	Godavari Sugar Mills
	PUNJAB
8.	Bhagwanpura Sugar Mills
	RAJASTHAN
9.	Mewar Sugar

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S.No.	State/Company
	UTTAR PRADESH
10.	Laxmi Sugar Mills
11.	*Cawnpore Sugar Mills
12.	*Shervani Sugar Syndicate Ltd.
	WEST BENGAL
13.	Ramnuger Cane (Khitan Agro Complex)
	* Under Enquiry by B.I.F.R.
Mini Sugar Mills	[Translation]

2428. SHRI MANJAY LAL: SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to open mini sugar mills on the lines of mini steel plants under small and rural industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The minimum economic size of a vacuum pan sugar factory is 2500 TCD. The sugar plants of capacity less than 2500 TCD are not economically viable and as such, the mini sugar plants are not being allowed to be set up as per the licensing policy guidelines.

2429. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Wil the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

Mother Dairy Plants

(a) the capacity utilisation of plants belonging to Mother Dairy, Bihar during each of the last three years; and

(b) the profit earned and loss suffered by it during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There are no Mother Dairy Plants in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Indian Students in USA

2430. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: