

1	2	3	4
20. Tripura		700	653
21. Uttar Pradesh		42,700	38,500
22. West Bengal		14,100	12,729
Union Territories			
23. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		165	148
24. Arunachal Pradesh		160	142
25. Chandigarh		35	28
26. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		100	87
27. Delhi		60	58
28. Goa, Daman and Diu		235	207
29. Lakshadweep		50	40
30. Mizoram		90	131
31. Pondicherry		175	157
Total		230,000	210,000

Punjab has been exempted from distribution of foodgrains.

Import of Sugar

1029. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government took a decision to import 1 million tonne of sugar to meet the gap between demand and supply of sugar;

(b) whether the S. T. C. which is the canalising agency have contracted for 9 lakh tonnes of sugar upto 30 June 1985;

(c) the countries from where the sugar was imported;

(d) the total need of the sugar to meet the gap between the demand and supply during current year;

(e) the steps Government are considering to take so that sugar shortage is not felt in the country;

(f) the total stock of sugar at present with Government; and

(g) the other steps being taken to meet the demand of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). State Trading Corporation has so far contracted for the import of about 9.29 lakh tonnes of sugar. They have entered into contracts with the International brokers and the sellers have the option to ship sugar of any origin except South Africa and Israel.

(d) and (e). As regards sugar imports during the financial year 1985-86, it has been decided for the present to import about 10 lakh tonnes of sugar upto September 1985. This quantity is considered adequate to meet the gap between the demand and supply during 1984-85 season. In view of the estimated carryover of about 14 lakh tonnes of sugar as on 1-10-1985 the question of shortage of sugar should not arise.

(f) Apart from the availability of imported sugar, the sugar stocks with the factories as on 7-7-1985 are of the order of 28.30 lakh tonnes.

(g) In addition to the indigenously produced sugar released for meeting the open

market requirements, a certain quantity of imported sugar has also been allocated to the State Governments for sale to the consumers at a price below Rs. 6 per kg and Food Corporation of India is also selling imported sugar against tender/auction at selected centres in various States. Moreover, State Governments have been advised to ensure that wholesale dealers observe the statutory provisions relating to stock holding limits, turn over of stocks in a period of 10 days, etc. and suitable action is also being taken for ensuring that the sugar factories observe instructions relating to sales and despatches of free sale sugar in accordance with the statutory requirements. With these measures it is expected that availability would improve as programmed resulting in adequate supplies at reasonable prices to the consumers.

Warning to Sugar Mills for Pushing up Prices

1030. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued a warning to the sugar mills regarding continued exploitation of market to push up prices of sugar;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to withdraw incentive and concessions given to the sugar industry;

(c) whether Government have blamed the sugar industry for increasing sugar prices;

(d) whether Government have also decided to set up a Central Vigilance Cell to keep a watch on the mills and monitor production, despatch and distribution of sugar; and

(e) if so, the other steps Government have taken to check the rise in price of sugar which has increased enormously during the last two months ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The Government have cautioned the sugar mills in this regard.

(b) and (c). Government is monitoring the sugar prices intensely and it would not hesitate to take stern action as per statutory provisions in case of violation of the statutory provisions and rules and regulations.

(d) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(e) The steps taken include :

(i) the decision to import 10 lakh tonnes of sugar and arrange its distribution at prices below Rs. 6 per kg. through State Government agencies and also its sale to licensed dealers by auction/tender through the Food Corporation of India;

(ii) Advice to State Governments to ensure strict enforcement of statutory provisions relating to stock holding limits and time limit for turn-over of stocks; and

(iii) Adequate releases of free-sale and levy sugar for internal consumption.

Target for Kharif Crop Production

1031. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have scaled down Kharif target as reported in the "Economic Times" dated 5 July, 1985;

(b) if so, reasons thereof; and

(c) what is Government's expectations regarding the monsoon precipitation and its impact on the kharif production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). For 1985-86, the annual target of foodgrains has been fixed at a higher level *i.e.* 160 million tonnes compared to the target of 153.6 million tonnes in 1984-85. The kharif crop is more dependent on the conditions of rainfall than the rabi crop. Yet the target for kharif foodgrains has been fixed at around the same level as in 1984-85 whereas the target of rabi foodgrains has been considerably increased.

(c) At present, the overall situation of monsoon rainfall is quite satisfactory and, accordingly, the kharif crop prospects appear to be good.