

Statutory minimum price for khandsari sugar

1473. SHRI V. SOBHANADRE-ESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether statutory minimum support price is fixed for cane to be supplied to khandsari sugar units in the country;

(b) if not, whether Government would consider to fix the statutory minimum price to be paid by the khandsari units under clause (4) of the Sugar Cane Control Order; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not fixing the statutory minimum price payable by the khandsari units in order to protect interests of cane growers ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Khandsari units are licensed by the State Governments. Under clause 4 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, State Govts. have been authorised to fix, with the approval of the Central Government, the statutory minimum price of sugarcane payable by khandsari units. It is for the State Govts. to take the initiative and during the last few years, only Andhra Pradesh Govt. has fixed the minimum price of sugarcane for khandsari units.

Expansion of sugar mills

1474. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to extend concessions for expansion of modern sugar mills;

(b) if so, the number of sugar mills allowed, to expand, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) The Central Financing Institutions provide financial assistance to sugar factories for undertaking expansion of capacity. The assistance from the Sugar Development Fund operated by the Central Government is also given to sugar factories for modernisation cum expansion subject to certain conditions. The new sugar factories and expansion units are also covered by the provisions of an Incentive Scheme.

(b) and (c) Statement giving the number of sugar mills State-wise to whom Letters of Intent have been granted for expansion during the Seventh Five Year Plan is given below.

Statement

The Number of Letters of Intent issued against the Seventh Five Year Plan for expansion in the existing sugar units,

S. No.	State	No. of Sugar Mills
1.	Uttar Pradesh	.17
2.	Tamil Nadu	7
3.	Gujarat	1
4.	Karnataka	3
5.	Maharashtra	6
6.	Punjab	3
7.	Bihar	2
Total		39

Telephone bills

1475. SHRI G.S. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone bills are required