

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2541
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
SHORTFALL IN SUGAR PRODUCTION
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has decided not to import sugar despite a fall in its sugarcane crop;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether stocks of sugar are sufficient to meet future demands;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has also stopped exporting sugar during current year; and
- (e) if so, the quantum of sugar export had taken place during 2003?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

- (a) & (b): Sugar is on OGL (Open General License) and is freely importable as per commercial prudence of importers.
- (c): Adequate stock of sugar is available for domestic consumption in the country in 2003-2004 sugar season (Oct. - Sept.).
- (d) & (e): Government does not undertake export of sugar. Sugar exports are undertaken as per the commercial prudence of the sugar factories taking into account the comparative realization from sale in the domestic and international market. The export of sugar for the sugar year 2003-2004 (Oct. - Sept.) as per the trade circles is estimated at 2.94 lakh M.Ts.