

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:139

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010

IMPORT OF SUGAR

Dashmunsi Deepa ;Sharma Shri Jagdish;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

- (a) the production, demand and shortage of sugar during the sugar crushing season of 2008-09 and 2009-10;
- (b) whether sugar has been imported during the said period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum, price in domestic and international market alongwith the countries from where it is being imported and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the said sugar is being distributed/proposed to be distributed through the Public Distribution System; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The production of sugar in 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar season is provisionally estimated at about 147 lac tons and about 160 lac tons as against the provisionally estimated demand of about 220 lac tons and about 230 lac tons, respectively.

(b)&(c): There has been no import of sugar on Government account during 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons. Sugar mills, public sector undertakings and merchant importers have imported raw and white / refined sugar as per their commercial prudence. According to DGCI&S, Kolkata data on import of sugar, 10.97 lac tons of sugar has been imported in 2008-09 sugar season. The DGCI&S data is not available in respect of 2009-10 sugar season. However, according to reports received from Department of Revenue, 11.69 lac tons of raw sugar and 4.49 lac tons of white/refined sugar has been imported in 2009-10 sugar season (upto 14.2.2010). The major imports are taking place from Brazil and Thailand. The international sugar price for import has varied from time-to-time as also the domestic price of sugar. The import of sugar was and is necessary to bridge the gap between the production and demand for sugar in 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons and the Central Government has permitted duty-free import of raw and white/refined sugar upto 31.12.2010.

(d): No, Madam. All imported raw and white/refined sugar is free from levy obligation.

(e): Does not arise.