

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:369
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
SUGAR MILLS
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

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

- (a) the number of sugar mills currently operational in the country, sector-wise and State-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken by the Union Government to help the sugar mills to meet the increasing cost of production of sugar?

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): A statement showing the number of sugar mills operational during current sugar season 2009-10 (Oct.- Sept.) in the country, sector-wise and State-wise are at Annexure.
- (b): The cost of sugar production depends upon the cost of raw material (sugarcane) and other inputs, efficient plant and machinery, modern technology, plant capacity and managerial efficiency, etc. The Central Government has taken the following steps in order to help the sugar mills to meet out the increasing cost of production of sugar:-
 - (i) For modernization and expansion of the plant, loans from the Sugar Development Fund are provided at concessional rate of interest to the sugar mills.
 - (ii) Sugar mills are encouraged to adopt by-product based ethanol and cogeneration units and loans are also made available to these units from Sugar Development Fund at concessional rate of interest.
 - (iii) Extend loans from Sugar Development Fund at concessional rate to sugar mills for cane development to increase production and yield of sugarcane in their areas so as to achieve better capacity utilization and improve recovery rate of sugar which lowers cost of production.