

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:394
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
AVAILABILITY OF SUGAR
Rao Shri Kavuri Samba Siva

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

- (a) the pattern of sugar consumption in rural and urban India and also in terms of human and industrial consumption;
- (b) the demand, production and availability of sugar during each of the last three years and estimates for the present year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to promote import of finished sugar for domestic consumption by making changes in the conditions for import and permit sugar mills to sell white sugar in domestic market so as to increase the availability and check thereby its prices; and
- (d) 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 Government does not maintain data on the pattern of sugar consumption in rural and urban India and also in terms of human and industrial consumption.
- (b): The estimate of demand/ internal consumption, production and estimated availability of sugar during each of the last three years (sugar seasons) (Oct.-Sept.) and estimates for the current year/sugar season (Oct-Sept.) are as under:

(Qty. in lac tons)

Sl.No.	Season	Demand/Internal Consumption	Production of sugar	Availability
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1. 2005-06 183.21 189.59 233.21

2. 2006-07 199.00 282.00 326.00

3. 2007-08 (P) 210.00 263.00 368.00

4. 2008-09 (E) 225.00 150-155 269-274

(P) – Provisional (E) – Estimated

(c)&(d): In order to augment domestic availability of sugar, the Central Government has permitted duty free import of white / refined sugar upto 1 million ton under OGL by the designated agencies upto 01.08.2009 vide notification dated 17.04.2009. Further, the Government has also permitted sugar factories to import raw sugar under Advance Authorisation Scheme upto 30.09.2009 and under Open General License (OGL) upto 01.08.2009 and sell the processed raw sugar within India so as to increase availability of sugar in the domestic market. This is with a view to keep sugar prices at a reasonable level.

As per the latest report (29.06.09) from the Department of Commerce, the total quantity of white/refined sugar contracted by the designated agencies is 108895 M.Ts. As per trade circles, about 25 lac tons of raw sugar have been contracted by Indian sugar factories out of which 17.43 lac tons have already arrived or would be arriving shortly. However, information received from Central Board of Excise and Customs indicates clearance of 5.83 lac tons of raw sugar from customs warehouses since 17.04.09 upto

30.06.2009.