

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1094

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma;Singh Shri Radhey Mohan;Sudhakaran Shri K.;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the production of sugar during the last three years leading to shortage and rise in prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the production, stock, consumption and price of sugar during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether sugar was imported/exported during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to increase production of sugar in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b) Production of sugar during last three sugar seasons declined but the steep fall in sugar production was in 2008-09 sugar season when it declined to about 147 lac tons against 263 lac tons achieved in 2007-08 sugar season. Production of sugar in 2009-10 sugar season was also low at about 188 lac tons. The low production of sugar in 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons put pressure and led to rise on sugar prices in the open market. A statement indicating sugar season-wise production, stock in the country, consumption during the last three sugar seasons and estimates thereof for current sugar season is enclosed at Annexure-I.

Another statement indicating production of sugar state-wise in last three sugar seasons and estimates thereof for current sugar season is enclosed at Annexure-II. Stocks of sugar state-wise are not maintained. As regards sugar prices, the Directorate of Sugar in the Department of Food and Public Distribution monitors ex-mill sugar prices of non-levy sugar in seven major producing states viz. Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Punjab and Karnataka. A statement indicating month-wise range of ex-mill non-levy prices of sugar during the last three sugar seasons and current sugar season (upto 23rd Feb.) in the said states is enclosed at Annexure-III.

(c) & (d) The Central Government had not imported/exported sugar on its own account during last three sugar seasons and current sugar season. It is the sugar mills and merchant importers/exporters who have imported/ exported as per their commercial prudence. There was negligible import of sugar in the 2007-08 sugar season. Imports of sugar in 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar season (upto August 2010) are placed at 24.47 lac tons and 41.80 lac tons, respectively (Source: Department of Revenue.). Export of sugar, in last three sugar seasons 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are placed at 58.22 lac tons, 2.16 lac tons and 2.37 lac tons, respectively

(Source: DGCIS, Kolkata). Information on current sugar season 2010-11 is not available.

(e) The Government has taken a number of measures to increase the production of sugarcane and sugar in the country as detailed at Annexure-IV.