

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:414
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
IMPORT DUTY ON SUGAR
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has abolished the import duty on sugar during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to the consumers from the said decision?

Answer

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

- (a) to (b): Yes Madam, Central Government has continued the duty free import regime of raw sugar as well as white/refined sugar in this sugar season as a continuation of this intervention which was initially started in 2008-09 sugar season. At present, duty free import of raw and white/refined sugar is permissible upto 31.08.2011.
- (c): The reason to start the duty free import regime was to augment the availability of sugar stocks in the country and to moderate its prices. In the current year, the exemption has been continued to keep the domestic prices of sugar stable.
- (d): The step alongwith other interventions helped in moderating the sugar prices and boosting the sugar availability for domestic consumers.