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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1266 ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011 IMPORT OF RAW SUGAR Bhujbal Shri Sameer

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

(a) the quantum of raw sugar imported into the country during the last two years and the current year;

(b) whether problems are being faced in processing of this sugar in some States including Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken to sort out these issues; and

(d) the steps taken for improving the availability and controlling the prices of sugar?

Answer

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

(a): The Central Government does not maintain data on import of raw and white/refined sugar separately. However, it closely monitored import of raw and white/refined sugar separately during 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons when sugar production had declined considerably and the Government had allowed duty free import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) on 'ton-to-ton' basis during the period 17.02.2009 to 30.09.2009 and under Open General License (OGL) from 17.04.2009. As per data furnished by the Department of Revenue, the quantity of raw sugar imported into the country during 2008-09 and 2009-10 was 22.37 and 33.96 lakh tons (upto August, 2010) respectively. As regards 2010-2011 sugar season, the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCIS) Kolkata put import of sugar(both raw & white/refined) 2.958 lakh tons upto July,2011.

(b) No such problems have been reported to the Central Government this year.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): It is the endeavor of the Government to make adequate sugar available in the country at reasonable price through the policy of regulated release mechanism.