

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4313

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011

AVAILABILITY OF SUGAR

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Hegde Shri Anant Kumar;Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Mohan Shri P. C.;Pakirappa Shri S.;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan;Yadav Shri Dinesh Chandra

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any estimates regarding the production and the demand of sugar in the country during the ensuing year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the carry over stock, estimated production and demand of sugar during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government is considering any proposal to allow export and impose import duty on sugar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith its likely impact on the availability of sugar on the sugar industry in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken to encourage production of sugarcane and sugar in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Based on the first advance estimates of sugarcane production released by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in September, 2011, production of sugar is provisionally estimated at about 246 lac tons as against the provisionally estimated demand of 220 lac tons during the current sugar season 2011-12. The carry over stock of last sugar season 2010- 11 is provisionally estimated at about 54.81 lac tons.

(c) & (d): Taking into account the opening stock, likely sugar production and domestic demand, the Government has allowed export of sugar upto 10 lac tons during sugar season 2011-12 under Open General License (OGL). Currently, import of raw and white / refined sugar is fully exempted from customs duty till 31.03.2012. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to impose customs duty on sugar.

(e): With a view to increase production of sugarcane and sugar in the country, the Central Government has taken the steps as detailed at Annexure.