

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:181
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
PRICES AND AVAILABILITY OF SUGAR
Roy Shri Arjun;Vardhan Shri Harsh

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

- (a) whether free sale quota of sugar is released in the open market on month to month basis, so as to moderate the prices of sugar;
- (b) if so, the quantum of sugar quota released for the period from October, 2011 to March, 2012, month-wise;
- (c) whether a lower free sale quota was released during March, 2012;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to maintain a meaningful balance between availability and pricing of sugar in an evenly manner throughout the year?

Answer

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

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 181 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27.03.2012 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) Yes Madam.

(b): The quantum of non-levy sugar quota released for the period from October, 2011 to March, 2012, month-wise is given below:-

(in Lac tons)

Month Total non-levy quota released for the month.

October, 2011 17.50

November, 2011 17.01

December, 2011 17.006

January, 2012 14.00

February, 2012 12.50

March, 2012 12.50

(c)&(d): During the month of March 2012, with the release of non levy sugar quota of 12.50 Lac tons, carry over stock of 1 lac ton and levy quota of 2.10 lac tons, the availability of sugar was sufficient in the market and the prices remained stable.

(e): It is the endeavour of the Government to maintain the balance between availability and pricing of sugar through regulated release mechanism, appropriate export-import interventions and administrative measures.