

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3738

ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012

RAW SUGAR

Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government had imported raw sugar during the last one year and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) the rate at which the import was made along with the expenses incurred per kilogram on processing of the said sugar;
- (d) whether any conditions were laid down for sale and distribution of processed sugar in the domestic market; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check the violation, if any, in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): No, Madam. The Central Government did not import sugar on its own account either in the last year or the current year. However, to stabilize the sugar prices in the domestic market, Government inter-alia permitted sugar mills /merchant importers to import raw and white/refined sugar under Open General License (OGL), as per their commercial prudence, at zero duty upto 30.06.2012 and at a moderate import duty of 10% from 13.07.2012. As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCIS), Kolkata, about 4.52 lakh tons and 0.485 lakh tons of raw sugar was imported during 2010-11 sugar season (October-September) and current sugar season (upto April, 2012) respectively. The state-wise data on import of raw sugar is not maintained.

(c): The price of sugar including raw sugar in international market varied from time to time and the expenses incurred on processing of raw sugar by the sugar mills also varied depending upon the various factors viz. efficiency of plant and machineries, processing technology, processing in season or off-season etc. As such, it is not possible to indicate the rate at which raw sugar was imported and the expenses incurred per kilogram on its processing.

(d)& (e): White/refined sugar processed from imported raw sugar was subjected to accelerated release mechanism for sale and distribution in domestic market. No violation has come to the notice of the Central Government in this regard.