

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3795
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
RELEASE OF SUGAR
Bhagora Shri Tarachand; Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether in view of the likely decline in sugar production during the ensuing season due to drought the Government is considering to allow sugar mills to release more sugar in the open market, impose export curbs and import sugar from Brazil to improve availability and control prices in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has fixed any quota for each sugar mill to supply sugar in the open market during the current and ensuing season;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) : As per the reports received from the major sugar producing States and also the sugar industry, likely production of sugar in the ensuing sugar season in the country will be sufficient to meet the domestic requirement. The price of sugar depends upon various factors, namely, sugar production, carryover stocks, domestic demand, international sugar prices and market sentiments etc. It would be the endeavor of the Government to keep sugar prices stable in the open market through the policy of regulated release mechanism. At present, no proposal is under consideration of the Government to impose curbs on exports of sugar. As regards import, the same is permitted at a moderate import duty of 10 %.

(c), (d) & (e): No, Madam. Government, under the policy of regulated release mechanism, makes quarterly releases of non-levy sugar for sale in the open market. The quarterly non-levy quota is apportioned among the sugar mills in proportion to the non-levy stocks held by them.