

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1368

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

IMPORT OF SUGAR

Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether in view of the decline in production of sugar, the Government proposes to import sugar to meet the demand;
- (b) if so, the extent of decline in the production of sugar during each of the last two years alongwith the quantum proposed to be imported during the current year, country-wise;
- (c) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of sugar in the market;
- (d) if so, the wholesale/retail price at which sugar is sold at the end of each month during the last one year;
- (e) whether the demand of sugar from India and some other countries has pushed up its prices in the global market; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof during the last one year?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): The production of sugar during current sugar season 2008-09 (October-September) is estimated to be in the range of 150-155 lac tons as compared to production of about 263 lac tons in sugar season 2007-08 and 282 lac tons in 2006-07 sugar season. Thus, the decline in production in the current sugar season is estimated to be in the range of 108-113 lac tons over last season's production and the production in 2007-08 season was less by about 19 lac tons over the production in 2006-07 season.

In view of decline in production of sugar, the Central Government has permitted duty free import of raw sugar by sugar mills under Open General License (OGL) upto 01.08.2009 and under Advance Authorization Scheme upto 30.09.2009 for processing and sale in India without any quantitative restriction and duty free import of upto 1 million ton of white/refined sugar under OGL by designated agencies upto 01.08.2009 as per their commercial prudence.

However, there is no proposal for import of sugar on Government account. As such, the question of indicating the quantum and country-wise import of sugar does not arise.

(c)&(d): The lower production of sugar during the current sugar season 2008-09 has put pressure on prices of sugar in the market. A statement indicating the wholesale and retail prices of sugar at the end of each month during the last one year is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(e)&(f): Yes, Madam. A statement indicating the futures month-end prices of white sugar in the international market during the last one year is enclosed at Annexure-II.