

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1260
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
IMPORT OF RAW SUGAR
Singh Shri Mahabali

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

- (a) the target fixed for import of raw sugar during the ensuing financial year along with the names of the countries from where it is proposed to be imported;
- (b) whether a huge quantum of raw sugar imported from foreign countries is lying at various ports of the country including Kandla port;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the short-term policy proposed by the Government to reduce the prices of sugar; and
- (d) the steps being proposed by the Government to encourage sugarcane and sugar production in the country to control the prices of sugar in the long run?

Answer

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

(a) The Central Government does not fix any target for import of raw sugar. Merchant importers/sugar mills are free to import sugar including raw sugar under Open General License (OGL) at the prevailing rate of custom duty (which is 10% since 13.07.2012) from any country as per their commercial prudence.

(b) & (C) No raw sugar imported from foreign countries is lying at major ports except 200 MTs inside Chennai Port Trust and 4980 MTs outside the Kandla Port Trust for transporting to refineries for processing.

The prices of sugar are currently stable in the domestic market

(d) The steps taken by the Central Government to encourage production of sugarcane and sugar in the country is given at Annexure.