

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5521
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
IMPORT OF RAW SUGAR
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed import of raw sugar in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the total quantum, price and import duty along with the terms and conditions on which import of raw sugar was allowed during the last two years, company-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to amend the Advance License Scheme for raw sugar import;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has since allowed sale of imported raw sugar in domestic market under these amended provisions;
- (e) if so, whether this policy has caused an imbalance in price structure between imported raw sugar and the domestic sugar; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): The Central Government has allowed import of raw sugar under Open General License (OGL) from March, 1994. Also, duty-free import of raw sugar is permissible under Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) (earlier Advance License Scheme (ALS)) to a manufacturer exporter or merchant exporter tied to supporting manufacturer(s) with export obligation against such import.

In order to keep the domestic prices at reasonable level, the Government permitted duty-free import of sugar including raw sugar under OGL with effect from 17.04.2009 upto 30.06.2012. Thereafter, a moderate customs duty of 10% has been imposed with effect from 13.07.2012 which is still in force.

As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Kolkata, 3.659 lac tons of raw sugar valued at Rs. 982.66 crores and 1.886 lac tons valued at 574.25 crores were imported by sugar mills/ merchant-importers during last two sugar seasons 2010-11 and 2011-12 (October–September), respectively. The prices of raw sugar in international market varied from time to time, as such, it is not possible to indicate the price at which such raw sugar was imported.

(C): No, Madam.

(d) to (f): Does not arise.