

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6222

ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015

SUPPLY OF SUGAR

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

- (a) whether there has been any shortfall in the production of sugar, leading to a rise in its prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of sugarcane crushed along with the production, consumption and price of sugar during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether sugar was imported or is proposed to be imported to meet the shortfall, if any in the domestic demand, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action taken by the Government to increase production, reduce dependence on import and check prices of sugar; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to supply more sugar through Public Distribution System (PDS) and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The production of sugar has been more than the domestic demand during last three sugar seasons and the current season 2014-15 resulting in subdued sugar prices. The retail prices of sugar displays regional variations.

The all India Average Retail price, calculated by averaging the regional retail prices, compiled by the Price Monitoring Cell of the Department of Consumer Affairs, along with the details of sugarcane crushed, production and consumption of sugar during the last three sugar seasons and current sugar season are as under:-

Sugar Season Sugarcane Sugar Consumption All India  
(October- Crushed Production (In Lac Tons) Average Retail  
September) (In Lac Tons) (In Lac Tons) Price of Sugar  
(Rs. Per Kg.)

2011-12	2555.16	263.43	227.25	34.33
2012-13	2501.83	251.83	230.00	37.43
2013-14	2397.52	245.54 (P)	243.00 (P)	35.56
2014-15	2607.36	265.00	248.00	34.07

(Estimates) (Estimates) (Estimates) (Upto 28th  
April, 2015)

(c): As indicated in reply to Parts (a)&(b) of the question, the production of sugar has been more than the domestic demand. The Government does not import sugar on its own account. Presently, import of sugar under Open General Licence (OGL) is free subject to payment of prevailing import duty. There had been hardly any import under OGL during current sugar season 2014-15.

(d): The Central Government provides concessional loans to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund

(SDF) for modernization/rehabilitation and sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management, etc. These measures help in increasing sugar production and reduce dependence on import. However, the price of sugar depends upon various factors like domestic production and demand, opening stocks with sugar mills, market sentiments and international sugar prices etc.; and the sugar prices in the domestic market are currently stable.

(e) : No, Madam.