

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4833

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014

ASSISTANCE FROM SDF

Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao;Patil Shri Sanjay(Kaka) Ramchandra

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

- (a) whether the Government maintains a Sugar Development Fund (SDF) to aid and assist the sugar factories by way of grant of loans from the fund;
- (b) if so, the details and modus operandi of the Fund;
- (c) the number and details of loan applications received from sugar factories approved and sponsored by the State Governments including Maharashtra;
- (d) the number and extent of loans granted against such applications, Statewise;
- (e) the details of such applications pending till date, State-wise; and
- (f) whether the SDF benefits are extended to the Sugarcane farmers also and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a): Yes Madam.

(b): The Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 provides for formation of a fund to be called Sugar Development Fund. The source of the Fund is the proceeds of the duty of excise levied and collected under the Sugar Cess Act, 1982 reduced by the cost of collection, as determined by the Central Government. The Fund is to be used to provide for the financing of activities for development of sugar industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

As per the laid down procedure under Sugar Development Fund Act 1982 and Rules made there under, the loan applications are first considered by Sub-Committee/Screening Committee of the Department of Food & Public Distribution (Dept. of F&PD). After its recommendations, the Standing Committee of the Dept. of F&PD considers the applications and makes its recommendations. Thereafter, the recommendations are approved by the Government for sanction and disbursement of loan subject to compliance of stipulated conditions.

(c) to (e): The State Governments recommend application of sugar undertaking in respect of Cane Development. During the year 2013-14 total 21 applications and during 2014-15 (upto 15-12-2014) 13 applications with recommendations of State Government have been received for sanction of Cane Development Loan. Out of these 34 applications, 25 are pending at different stages of processing such as consideration by the Screening Committee and the Standing Committee. Further information has been sought from some of the sugar undertakings in respect of their proposal. In eight cases, administrative approvals have been issued sanctioning the loans and one case has been closed. State-wise position showing number of applications received and pending is given in table -I of the Annexure and a statement showing the details of disbursement of Cane Development Loan to sugar factories State-wise during 2013-14 and 2014-15 (upto 15.12.2014) is at table -II of the Annexure.

(f): Rule 17 of SDF Rules, 1983 provides for extending Cane Development Loans to sugar undertaking in connection with development of sugarcane in the area in which its sugar factory or any of its sugar factories is situated. Cane growers are benefitted from such loans.