

Title: Need to provide sugar through PDS to all the consumers in Kerala.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): The Union Cabinet has recently decided to do away with the distribution of PDS levy sugar to those above poverty line. This decision has come when the income tax assesseees and their family members have already been removed from the ambit of ration sugar with effect from July, 2000. This decision will adversely affect the Public Distribution System in Kerala as no sugar is produced in the State. Moreover, the decision of the Central Government will push up the price of sugar in the open market. The matter has already been brought to the attention of the Central Government. But the Government has taken no decision in this regard.

In the circumstances, I would request the Government to take immediate action so as to enable all the consumers in the State to draw PDS sugar.

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