

a feasibility study for a medium capacity MRTS system in Cochin. The proposal was examined in this Ministry and the State Government was advised to furnish more details with regard to the cost of the study. The State Government is yet to furnish the details in this regard.

**Import of Sugar** 127-52

1972. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:  
 SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:  
 SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:  
 SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:  
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
 SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK:  
 SHRI MADAN PATIL:  
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:  
 SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:  
 SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:  
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) the quantum of sugar imported during each of the last three years and the current year indicating the names of the countries rates and the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) the present stock of sugar in the country;

(c) whether this stock is sufficient to meet the requirement of the country;

(d) if so, the reasons for importing sugar from Pakistan;

(e) the details of foreign countries which have dumped their sugar in India;

(f) whether the world price of sugar have been falling the resulting for its rise in India;

(g) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring down the sugar prices in the country;

(h) whether the import is likely to affect the domestic sugar industry;

(i) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the sugar industry; and

(j) the time by which the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) A statement indicating the countrywise details of imports of sugar and its values for the last three years and the current year (upto Nov. 1998) in Rs. crores is given in *Statement-I*.

(b) and (c) The sugar season (Oct. - Sept.) 1997-98 ended with a closing stock of 53.7 lakh tonnes on 30.09.98. The Sugar season 1998-99 has commenced with effect from 1.10.1998 and with the production of sugar in the first five months of the current sugar season the stocks of sugar are provisionally estimated at 79.43 lakh tonnes as on 31.01.99. The production of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season (October-September) is provisionally estimated at 150 lakh tonnes and the closing stocks of sugar as on 30.09.99 is estimated at 58.9 lakh tonnes. As the internal consumption of sugar during 1998-99 sugar season is estimated at 144 lakh tonnes the availability of sugar during 1998-99 is considered adequate to meet the domestic requirement.

(d) There has been no imports of sugar either from Pakistan or any other country on Government account either in the last financial year or during the current financial year. Private parties are importing sugar based on the best commercial judgments.

(e) The Anti-Dumping Directorate initiates Anti-dumping investigation only on receipt of a documented Petition from the domestic industry wherein prima facie there must be evidence of dumping injury to the domestic industry and casual link established between dumping and injury. In case of sugar, no petition has been filed with the Anti-Dumping Directorate requesting for initiating action on sugar dumping.

(f) and (g) World prices of sugar during January 1998 to February (upto 19.2.99) have been indicated in a *Statement-II*. The world prices though fluctuating on a month to month basis, have shown a declining trend. So far as the domestic prices of the sugar are concerned, a statement indicating the range of wholesale price of S-30 Grade of sugar in the 4 principal markets of the country, namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai is indicated at *Statement-III*. The domestic prices, though

fluctuating, have also shown a declining trend. The retail prices of sugar in the said principal markets of the country have ranged between Rs. 14.50 to Rs. 17.00 per kg. Therefore, the sugar prices have been more or less stable.

(h) and (i) The two apex organisations of the Sugar Industry, viz. Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF) represented to government stating, *inter-alia*, that there has been large inflow of imported sugar and fall in the international prices of sugar and demanded increase in the Customs duty on imports of sugar. Government considered the demand of the Sugar Industry and raised the customs duty on imports of sugar from 5% to 20%

w.e.f. 14.1.99. However, with the change in customs duty rate structure in the budget proposals for the financial year 1999-2000, the custom duty on imports of sugar stands further revised to 25% along with surcharge of 10% w.e.f. 28.02.1999.

(j) The recommendations of the Mahajan Committee are being processed in consultation with State Governments, Planning Commission and other Departments of the Central Government. The recommendations of the Committee are having far reaching effects. It is, therefore, not possible to fix any time frame for the implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

### **Statement I**

*Statement showing Quantity of Sugar Imported and its value in Rs./Crores during the Financial year 1995-96 to 1998-99 (Upto November, 1998)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	(1995-96)		(1996-97)		(1997-98)*		(1998-99)*	
		Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs./ Crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Australia	224	0.34	—	—	97	0.17	—	—
2.	Belgium	—	—	215	0.34	2193	3.38	2561	3.63
3.	Brazil	145980	209.71	—	—	164243	217.05	44206	52.28
4.	France	—	—	228	0.32	31070	41.58	32370	44.78
5.	German F. Rep.	215	0.34	903	1.39	7104	10.19	11736	15.26
6.	Pakistan	3982	5.12	—	—	20672	29.03	403387	513.67
7.	Singapore	124	0.21	—	—	5215	7.22	1500	1.93
8.	S. Africa	—	—	483	0.70	15971	22.41	234	0.35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	U. Arab Emrts.	105	0.17	86	0.12	22973	32.66	31251	39.97
10.	U.K.	—	—	216	0.31	2763	3.26	5510	8.55
11.	USA	2	0.003	—	—	16838	22.03	—	—
12.	Hongkong	—	—	—	—	7000	9.70	—	—
13.	Indonesia	—	—	—	—	64	0.28	18	0.14
14.	Japan	—	—	—	—	2700	3.53	—	—
15.	Korea R P	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	0.05
16.	Mayanmar	—	—	—	—	2099	2.62	—	—
17.	Maxico	—	—	—	—	6250	8.35	34427	49.28
18.	Philippines	—	—	—	—	476	0.41	—	—
19.	Saudi Arab	—	—	—	—	948	1.29	—	—
20.	Thailand	—	—	—	—	20600	27.42	11167	13.44
21.	Canada	—	—	—	—	72	0.18	19	0.05
22.	Chinese Taipei	—	—	—	—	N.A.	0.61	215	0.20
23.	China PRP	—	—	—	—	—	—	8666	10.95
24.	Iran	—	—	—	—	—	—	430	0.40
25.	Notherland	—	—	—	—	—	—	539	0.60.
26.	Sudan	—	—	—	—	—	—	8500	12.37
TOTAL:		150632	215.893	2131	3.18	330248	443.37	596775	768.17

Source:— DGCIS— Calcutta, Ministry of Commerce.

\* : Provisional

**Statement II**

*F.O.B. Price of London Daily Price White Sugar  
(Price US\$ Per Tonne)*

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1.	January, 1998	298.00
2.	February, 1998	281.84
3.	March, 1998	269.52
4.	April, 1998	256.30
5.	May, 1998	264.53
6.	June, 1998	260.08
7.	July, 1998	256.90
8.	August, 1998	256.10
9.	September, 1998	221.99
10.	October, 1998	220.45
11.	November, 1998	237.13
12.	December, 1998	241.86
13.	January, 1999	242.29
14.	February, 1999 (Upto 19.2.1999)	230.61

**Statement III**

*Range of Wholesale Prices of S-30 Grade Sugar in the for Principal Markets of the Country for the Financial Year 1998-99 upto February, 1999*

(Rs. quintal)

Month	Range (All 4 Centres)
April, 1998	1425-1590
May, 1998	1470-1615
June, 1998	1413-1610
July, 1998	1423-1600
August, 1998	1368-1625
September, 1998	1328-1620
October, 1998	1384-1600
November, 1998	1366-1570
December, 1998	1368-1600
January, 1999	1378-1600
February, 1999	1383-1600

*[Translation]*

**Connecting Cities Near Delhi with Express Highways**

1973. ~~SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY:~~  
~~SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:~~

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to connect the nearby cities of Delhi with the Express Highways in order to check the increasing pollution and traffic menance in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?