

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
SUGAR RELATED ISSUES .

1112

Shri Sanjay Raut

Will the Minister of COALCONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :
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- (a) the present status of Indian sugar manufacturing industries;
- (b) whether Government is reconsidering its decision to allow 5,00,000 tonne sugar export;
- (c) if so, Government's response thereto;
- (d) whether it is a fact that there is a possibility of sugar output for 2010-11 falling short to the desired estimates in the country; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for controlling sugar prices and shortages in the country in the future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): There are 657 installed sugar factories in the country as on 28.02.2011. Out of them 512 have been reported working in the current 2010-11 sugar season.

(b)&(c): The Government had decided to allow export of 5 lac tons of sugar under Open General License (OGL) so that advantage of favorable international prices could be taken. However, later, it was decided to re-examine the issue for its implication on inflation of food items. Final decision in the matter is yet to be taken

(d)&(e): Production of sugar depends upon several factors viz. sugarcane production in the season, drawal rate (percentage of cane supply available to sugar factories for production of sugar), quality of sugarcane, recovery percentage, etc. The production of sugar in the current sugar season is provisionally estimated at 245 lac tons. Presently crushing in current sugar is going on. At this stage, therefore, it is not clear whether production will fall short of or exceed 245 lac tons. To moderate sugar prices and shortage of sugar in the country, the Government has already taken a slew of measures which, inter-alia, include duty-free import of raw and white/refined sugar upto 31.03.2011, imposition of stockholding and turnover limits on sugar/khandsari sugar upto 31.03.2011 and stock limit on bulk consumers of sugar upto 13.08.2011, etc.