

Statement-IV

*Table showing Consumption, Export and Import of Sugar since
2006-07 to 2009-10 (October - September)*

(Unit: lakh tons)

Year	Consumption	Export	Import
2006-07	191	24.90	0.05
2007-08	205	58.23	0.04
2008-09	220	2.17	10.97
2009-10		0.21	30.14
		(Oct.2009 to March 2010)	(October 2009- July 2010)

Source: Department of Food and PD.

Decontrol of sugar prices

1376. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

- (a) whether there is a move to decontrol sugar prices;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (c) if so, how Government proposes to protect the poor consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A representation has been received from sugar industry demanding, *inter alia*, the following:

- i. Sugarcane price be related to realization from sugar and direct realization from by-products on the basis of a suitable formula. Minimum price protection shall come from Government during years of low sugar realization;
- ii. PDS sugar be procured from the open market;

iii. Sugar be removed from the purview of Essential Commodities Act;

iv. Sugar be decontrolled and release mechanism be dispensed with. Further, there shall be no stock holding limits on trade or bulk consumers.

A decision will be taken only after taking into consideration all the aspects including availability, price situation, its impact on cane growers, impact on the consumers of sugar and distribution of sugar through the Public Distribution System. Government will ensure that interest of poor consumers is protected.

Wetting of produced foodgrains

†1377. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat procured by various Government agencies till-8 May, 2010;

(b) the names of States where foodgrain got wet due to rains from May, 2010 to now and the quantity thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that concerned agencies did not make timely arrangement for tarpaulin; and

(d) if so, the persons found guilty therefor and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) 209.97 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies during Rabi Marketing Season 2010-11 till 8th May, 2010.

(b) to (d) Some of the Food grains stocks kept in FCI and state agencies storage points got damaged by rains and floods during July, 2010 in UP, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab. Details of FCI godowns and state government agencies where the damage took place are given in Statement (*See below*).

For dereliction of duty of FCI officers at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj, FCI has initiated action including suspension of 8 officers.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.