

Production of white sugar and its export

2315. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many European countries do not accept white sugar processed in the country because of its inferior quality and prefer to import raw sugar from India for processing at their end for consumption;

(b) if so, the measures Government proposes, to be followed by the sugar industries in the country, for production of white sugar to even meet the standards of European countries; and

(c) the total quantity of sugar produced in the country during 2015-16 and 2016-17 and the quantity exported thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) There are Sugar mills/refineries in the country equipped to produce and export raw sugar as well as plantation white/refined sugar of any standard. The quality of the both refined and plantation white sugar produced in the country conforms to stringent quality parameters formulated by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) which are harmonized with international standards. Production of either raw, plantation white or refined sugar is governed by common consumer preferences, market demand and industrial usage. European countries prefer refined sugar, whereas in India, in general, plantation white sugar is produced although refined sugar is also produced in integrated or standalone refineries. Both plantation white and refined sugar are regularly exported from India and in the past, whenever refined sugar has been exported to European Union, it has been well received by them.

(c) The details of sugar produced during sugar seasons 2015-16 and 2016-17 (till 31st July, 2017) and exported under Open General License (OGL) during the same period are as under:-

Sugar Season	Quantity of sugar produced (in Lakh MT)	Quantity of sugar exported under OGL (in Lakh MT)
2015-16	251.21	16.93
2016-17(P)	201.01	0.46

(P) Provisional

Source: On-line information furnished by sugar mills.