

Subsidy on sugar

2285. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Australia dragged India to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) citing that India has increased its subsidy on sugar by 10-fold in the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent this would have implications on prices and also on trade in global market; and

(d) the impact it would also have due to recent defeat of India before the WTO in a dispute the US?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Australia has filed WTO dispute (DS580) against India in March, 2019 alleging that it is providing domestic support and export subsidies to its sugarcane/sugar producers and that these are inconsistent with WTO norms. It is alleged that India is providing Market Price Support to Sugarcane farmers in excess of de-minimis limit of 10% of Total value of production. A dispute settlement panel has been composed in the dispute and further proceedings are going on.

(c) and (d) In the dispute, India has taken the stand that it is a marginal player in the international sugar market and its measures will not have any implication on prices and trade in the global market. Regarding the impact of recent ruling against India in a WTO dispute with the US (*i.e.* DS541-India's export related measures) on sugar subsidy dispute, it is stated that both are separate and distinct disputes and outcome of one dispute cannot impact the other.

Funds released and projects taken up under FIDF in Andhra Pradesh

2286. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released funds under Fishery and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) to the State of Andhra Pradesh;