

into it ahead of those who really have that technology.

Sir, as far as the demarcation of the Exclusive Economic Zone is concerned, I think we do not have a problem about that. It is the second part of it and that is the Continental shelf which really requires to be mapped to show how much of it really comes under our exclusive control. This work is going on, parts of it have been completed, the rest if it is still under survey.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, my question is regarding the Exclusive Economic Zone of India. From the answer it is clear that there are five agencies which are doing the survey and exploration work- the Department of Ocean Development, Fisheries Surveys, Central Marine fisheries, Geological Survey of India and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. Five different agencies are doing the survey and exploration work. According to all the indications which are available, our sea beds have a very rich wealth, but we find that we do not have enough capacity and also necessary equipment and organisation to do this exploration work as expeditiously as it is required. Keeping this in view, is the government thinking to have a coordinated department or agency? Secondly, are they going to seek some assistance from foreign agencies where required high technology and equipments are made available for the exploration of this sea-bed wealth?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I will start by answering the last part of it first. For off-shore oil exploration we have called for bids now from international companies which are prepared to come both for the off-shore Andaman and Nicobar Islands as well as for the three blocks on the Bengal coast. These are being offered for international exploration and exploitation with certain conditions which would give the option to us to buy 100% of the crude when it becomes available.

As far as the other exploration is concerned, I can mention that a Working Group

was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture for exploration and exploitation of the fish resources. This question is exclusively related to Bay of Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands which has been put. In this area also, Tuna and certain other fish resources like lobsters have been discovered which could be exploited upto the level of 10.9. and 1.3 lakh tonnes annually in these areas which are not yet exploited. That is being done by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Department. We also have, at the same time, other explorations going on, for instance, for demarkating the EEZ and this one is done by the Geological Survey of India. Therefore, as I said in the beginning, there are various agencies attending to different types of work which are going in the off-shore areas which have been undertaken.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YEADAV: Sir, My question regarding the coordinated agency for all these works, has not been answered.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, this is a good suggestion which we would certainly like to consider.

Norms For Allocation of Levy Sugar

*390. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for allocation of levy sugar to the States;

(b) the allocation thereof to each State during the current year, month-wise; and

(c) whether the government propose to fix the levy sugar quota to the States on the basis of population as per census of 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Under the present policy of partial control, levy sugar allocations to the States are generally made on uniform norms of ensuring 425 gms per capital monthly

availability for the projected populations on 1.10.1986. These norms are effective from 1.2.1987.

In addition to the monthly levy quota, a quantity 99, 950 tonnes of levy sugar is released to States/U.Ts as festival quota each year. The festival quota is apportioned among the States/U.Ts in proportion to their normal levy allocations.

(b) State-wise quantities of monthly levy sugar quota, additional 5% adhoc allotment and festival quota are given in the Statement, laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The allocation of levy sugar to States/U.Ts is being increased keeping in view increased production.

STATEMENT

S No	State/UT	Monthly normal quota	Monthly 5% adhoc increase (allowed from August, 1991 to March, 1992)	Festival quota for each year
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	25281	1264	7614
2	Andaman Nicobar	247	12	74
3	Arunchal Pradesh	314	16	4
4	Assam	9617	481	2896
5	Bihar	33459	1673	10078
6	Chandigarh	372	19	112
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	51	3	14
8	Delhi	8721	436	2316
9	Goa	500	25	150
10	Daman	24	1	
11	Diu	15	1	12

S.No.	State/UT	Monthly normal quota	Monthly 5% adhoc increase (allowed from August, 1991 to March, 1992)	Festival quota for each year	
1	2	3	4	5	
12.	Gujarat	16194	810	4878	
13.	Haryana	6386	6386	319	1924
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2019	2019	101	608
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	2884	2884	144	868
16.	Karnataka	17769	17769	888	5350
17.	Kerala	11953	11953	598	3600
18.	Lakshdweep	71	71	4	22
19.	Madhya Pradesh	25031	25031	1252	7536
20.	Maharashtra	29938	29938	1497	9014
21.	Manipur	694	694	35	208
22.	Meghalaya	662	662	33	200

S.No.	State/UT	1	2	3	4	5
			Monthly normal quota	Monthly 5% adhoc increase (allowed from August, 1991 to March, 1992)	Festival quota for each year	
23.	Mizoram		261	13	78	
24.	Nagland		426	21	128	
25.	Orissa		12393	620	3730	
26.	Pondicherry		305	15.2	64	
27.	Karikal		73	3.7	18	
28.	Mahe		15	0.7	4	
29	Yanam		7	0.4	2	
30.	Punjab		7945	397	2392	
31.	Rajasthan		16914	846	5092	
32.	Sikkim		165	8	50	
33.	Tamil Nadu		22547	1127	6790	
34.	Tripura		1001	50	302	
35.	Uttar Pradesh		52926	2646	15936	
36.	West Bengal		25888	1294	7796	
	Total		333068	16654	99,950	

DR. SUDHIR RAY: Sir, you are not at all allowing the back benchers to ask supplementary questions. You cannot browbeat us. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not allowed. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The back benchers will have a chance now. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must also give an opportunity to the back-benchers to express their views. *(Interruptions)* or inform us about the time when we will be given an opportunity to speak. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: My suggestion is that the entire proceedings of the House should be televised.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we always come prepared for our speeches but always stand in queue, waiting for our turn to come. You must pay attention to this matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HAJI ADHAN ROY: Though we come well-prepared with our speeches but we don't get an opportunity to ask questions and supplementary.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked a specific question, whether

Government is distributing levy sugar quota on the basis of 1987 census. *(Interruptions)* I would like to point out that from the 1987 onwards the population of our country has increased from 20 to 25%. In reply to my question the hon. Minister has admitted that Government is not considering to make 1991 as base year for distribution of levy sugar quota. *(Interruptions)* Through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that even though there is an increase of 20 to 25% in the population of our country since 1987, the Government is still distributing levy sugar quota with 1987 as base year and as a result there is acute shortage of levy sugar. *(Interruptions)* Therefore, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister when people are being denied the levy sugar, why the Government is not considering 1991 as base year for distributing sugar quota. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Now I will allow the back-benchers to ask supplementaries. Please be ready for this.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not got an opportunity to raise even a single question. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any proposal to make 1991 as base year for the distribution of levy sugar quota is under consideration as the population has increased from by 20 to 25% since 1987. Besides, the production of sugar has also increased and Government proposes to export sugar. Keeping in view these aspects of sugar production, I think it is justifiable to make 1991 as base year for the distribution of levy sugar quota. I would like to know whether any such proposal is under consideration of the Government. Is the hon. Minister ready to accept the proposal.

[*English*]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, it is a fact that as on today we are allocating the levy sugar on the basis of 1-10-1986 population. In view of the increased production of sugar in the meantime, we have increased the existing quota by five per cent. To meet the requirements of levy sugar according to the 1991 Census, I think, it may take another one year as the production of sugar is to pick up and to stabilise. We can consider it next year. To meet the requirement 10 per cent extra increase of sugar is necessary. We have already given five per cent more.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider to increase the quot of sugar from 425 grammes to 700 grammes due to the unbearable price of sugar prevailing in the market.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We have not been able to increase the quota even to 425 grammes on the basis of 1991 census. It is under consideration. It is a partial control, with the ratio between 45 levy sugar and 55 free sale sugar. Out of the levy sugar, we have to give the allocation to the different States.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out of the hon. Minister that the sugar mills are incurring heavy losses and farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce due to the faulty sugar policy of the Government? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This question does not arise out of the main question. If I do not allow you, you would become angry.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. It does not come out of it.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I

would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the norms mentioned by the Government for distribution of sugar in the States are maintained by the Government for distribution of sugar. And if the norms are maintained then? What are the norms? And is it a fact that the sugar that is distributed to rural people in comparison to urban people is less and, if it is less, why it is less?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: 425 grammes is distributed on the basis of the projected population of 1986. This is the norm of distribution to all the States. There is no discrimination between one State and another. Whatever is allocated to the State, the State distributes. We do not come into the picture to see whether there is any discrimination between the urban and the rural.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: What is the total production of sugar? What is the net demand for consumption and what is the present value in the open market? There is some gap between the control rate and the open market rate. What are the measures to be taken by the Government to bridge this gap of price?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: The production is 1, 19, 000 tonnes and the consumption is 1, 15, 000 tonnes. There is always difference between the control price and the open price. Control price is cheaper price and open market price is determined by the demand and supply. There is a difference between control price and open market price.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please bear in mind that I will allow one question from the ruling party and the other from the Opposition party

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why there is a difference

in the quality of the sugar which is sold at control price and the sugar sold in the open market. Poor people should also get the same quality of sugar as in the open market. We get lesser quantity because it is made available at controlled rate but there should be no complaint about quality of sugar and the weighing system. It has been observed that poor quality sugar is distributed in most of the ration shops in rural areas. There should be improvement in this. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please help the Members in the House, to put their questions, by keeping quiet.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I do not agree that whatever we give to the ration-shops is of third quality. whatever we allot, we allot to the State Governments. They have got every right to reject if the standard is below the normal standard (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you interrupting others? Afterwards you would complain that Members are not given opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Have you completed your reply?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I know why you are asking so many questions. But please help me to give you a chance.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: About his question, I would like to say that it is the same sugar which we allot because it comes from the same factory.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Lady Member Dr.(Shrimati) K.S. Soundaram to put the question.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: I do not want to ask any question.

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a lot of difference in the quality of levy sugar and the sugar sold in open market. People should get the same quality sugar through ration shops.

MR. SPEAKER: You had raised your hand. Now you do not want to ask your question...No cross-talk there. Please help other members

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has submitted that no discrimination is done in allocating sugar to States through Public Distribution System to urban and rural areas. But we know that it is true in cause of States. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government would issue any guidelines to the States to the effect that no discrimination is made in distribution of levy sugar between the urban and the rural areas otherwise Central Government would cut off their shares.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Normally we do give any instructions how it is to be distributed. We allot it taking into consideration the population that is there on the basis of 1.10.1986.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shankarrao D. Kale. He knows a lot about sugar.

SHRI SHANKARRAO D. KALE: The price fixed for the levy sugar is not quite sufficient to meet out the cost of production of sugar. Will the hon. Minister think of raising the price of levy sugar to meet out the cost of production? Further, the levy price in respect of each State is different. Will the Minister think of bringing an equal price in respect of all the States as far as the levy-price is concerned? Will he maintain a price

party in respect of all the States? (*Interruptions*)

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI. The ex-factory levy price differs from State to State. I think the hon Member means the ex-factory price of Sugar. But it does not arise out of this question. Anyhow, I would like to State that it varies from State to State. For example, as far as Maharashtra is concerned, the production is higher, the recovery is higher, the duration is more, the cost of production is less. Comparing to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the cost of production is less in Maharashtra. That is why we fix up the ex-factory value taking into consideration the cost of production (*interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKERJEE Sir, You are not calling my question

MR SPEAKER You are a front-bencher

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY Mr Speaker, Sir, there are two types of rationing systems prevalent in the country - one is statutory rationing and the other is modified rationing. If the production of sugar is increasing in the country why cannot we distribute the same quality sugar through both the rationing systems. How long would it take now?

MR SPEAKER This is not a relevant question but even then I am allowing the Minister

[*English*]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI We distribute it uniformly taking into consideration the total population. We give 425 grams per head

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE Mr Speaker,

Sir, in Delhi, per head quota is comparatively more than in other States. A uniformity should be maintained. If sugar is distributed considering 1991 as base year then all people would be able to get it and there would be adequate supply (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI Sir, it is a fact that Delhi has been getting a little bit more

SOME HON. MEMBERS Why?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI It is getting for a very long time

MR SPEAKER And also because, Delhi has no sugar factory. Shri Meghe, Please sit down. You have asked the question and you will get the reply

SHRI TARUN GOGOI Sir, not only Delhi, there are seven such areas which get a little bit more. For example, Lakshadweep, the constituency of Shri P M Sayeed, Andaman and Nicobar Islands from where Shri Manoranjan Bhakta comes and certain other areas

Ban on Employment of Children in Beedi Industry

*391 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE
SHRI C P MUDALA GIRIYAPPA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the number of children employed in the beedi industry in the country,

(b) whether the Supreme Court has given a judgement putting an immediate ban on employment of children in beedi industry.