

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:759  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2003  
REDUCTION OF SUGAR QUOTA  
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

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

- (a) whether the Union Government have decided to reduce the monthly sugar quota of States with effect from August, 2003;
- (b) whether such a decision has created an artificial shortage and increased the prices of sugar to Rs. 250 per quintal in many parts of the country including Gujarat;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government propose to bring down the prices of sugar in the open market;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION V. SREENIVASA PRASAD )

(a)to(f): The monthly quota of non-levy sugar is decided keeping in view the various factors like sugar production, requirement/demand, availability of alternate sweeteners like gur and khandsari, price trend of sugar in the market etc. The total quantity of non-levy sugar released month-wise from August, 2003 to December, 2003 vis-à-vis the releases made in the corresponding months of 2002 as under:

Month Non-levy sugar quota released

(quantity in lakh tonne)

	2003	2002
August	9.50	9.75
September	10.45	9.75
October	12.65	11.50
November	10.50	10.50
December	10.00	10.00
Total	53.10	51.50

The prices of sugar were in the range of Rs.1200-1400 per quintal during the month of November, 2003 as against Rs.1160-1340 per quintal during the corresponding month of 2002. In addition to the factors mentioned above, monthly quota of non-levy sugar is decided keeping in view its availability to the consumers at a reasonable price.