

बची उपलब्ध नहीं हुई है। निर्वाचन आयोग ने आवश्यक सामग्री मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारियों से मंगाई है।

Sugar Mills

*97. Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:
Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi:
Shri K. N. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 80 per cent of the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh have stopped crushing and the rest are expected to do so shortly;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and its effect on sugar production; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check this stoppage?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The early closure of sugar mills is due to fall in production of sugarcane and diversion of sugarcane to production of gur and khandsari on account of high prices of these commodities. This is likely to result in a fall of about 6.4 lakh tonnes in sugar production in U.P. compared to last year.

(c) The Government of India gave a general increase of 32 paise per quintal of sugarcane and even permitted factories in West U.P. (excepting those in Sitapur, Lakhimpur Khari and Hardoi Districts) to pay Rs. 6.68 per quintal instead of the basic minimum price of Rs. 6.68 per quintal but this did not prove to be enough to prevent diversion of sugarcane from factories to gur and khandsari manufacture.

Rationing in Urban Areas

*98. Shri C. Jannardhanan:
Shri P. C. Adichan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision to introduce rationing in all urban centres with a population of one lakh and more has not yet been implemented in full;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to implement the decision in full?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Extension of rationing to the urban centres concerned involves maintenance of adequate stocks not only for current consumption but also for reserves. Therefore, such extension can be effected only when adequate stocks have been built up. So far it has not been possible to do so.

(c) Attempts are being made to build up stocks through more intensive local procurement and larger imports as soon as practicable.

Subsidy in Foodgrains

*99. Shri P. C. Adichan:
Shrimati Susela Gopalan:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has decided to withdraw the subsidy given to Kerala for distribution of rice through fair price shops;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Government has made any representation to the Centre in this respect;

(d) if so, the nature of representation made; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?