



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES & PRODUCTION

PRO TO MINISTER
PH: 051-9202856

PRESS RELEASE

Islamabad: July 26, 2010

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE EXPRESSES SATISFACTION OVER SUGAR STOCKS.

The Ministerial Committee set up by the ECC met under the chairmanship of Minister for Industries & Production on 26th July 2010. The meeting was attended by the Federal Ministers for Food and Agriculture, Science and Technology, Petroleum and Natural Resources, Minister for State for Finance and Economic Affairs, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Federal Secretaries for Finance, Planning and Development, Food and Agriculture and Commerce. The provinces were represented by Secretary Industries Punjab, Secretary Food Punjab, Secretary Agriculture Sindh, Secretary Food Balochistan, Cane Commissioner Punjab, Secretary Food KPK, Cane Commissioner MINFA, Senior representative of State Bank of Pakistan, Chairman TCP, Managing Director USC.

The meeting inter alia was informed of the total stocks position on 26-07-2010 as 11 lac 7 thousand tons with the break up as follows, Punjab 6,00,000 tons, Sindh 2 lacs 77 thousand tons, Kyber Pakhtoon Khawa 43 thousand tons and Balochistan 5 thousand tons while TCP had 1 lac 82 thousand tons. It was agreed to supply sugar through provincial mechanisms to supplement sugar stocks immediately. In the first intervention. It was decided that TCP will complete the tendering process for import of remaining 3 lacs 75 thousand tons of white sugar on schedule. Further to ensure ample supplies in the market and to defeat hoarding and speculation one lac tons of TCP imported sugar will be offloaded in the open market at import price through provincial mechanisms to supplement domestic sugar stocks immediately. The provinces will have to pay in cash as they lift the stocks from TCP well before Ramazan. The respective provincial allocations will be as follows: The Punjab, 50,000; The Sindh 17,000, The Balochistan 8,000, The Khyber Pakhtoon khwa 20,000 tons, The AJK/Northern Areas 5,000 Tons.

The Committee also recommended that 5 lac tons of raw sugar will be allowed to be imported duty free till the 30th of November 2010 on first come first served basis. The Committee decided that USC sale price of per kg sugar will be Rs.55 during Ramazan and afterwards the price differential will be not more than Rs. 10 per kg from the average market price prevailing in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi. The Committee also decided that with the completion of the current sugar import process the market forces will be allowed to prevail and the private sector would be encouraged to import sugar.

The meeting expressed satisfaction at the sugar reserves that were comfortably positioned for Ramadan and thereafter till the onset of the next crushing season.

MAB