

Government of Maharashtra

No. SSK – 2021 /CR 285/ 25- C Cooperation, Marketing & Textile Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032 Date: - 13.12.2021

To,
The Chief Director, (Sugar),
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution,
Department of Food & Public Distribution,
Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Dellhi -110 001.

Subject:- Request for permission to purchase sugarcane juice/syrup for the production of ethanol under Ethanol Blended with Petrol (EBP) Programme of the Government of India.

Reference: Your Office Letter No.6/1/2018 - (BP & E) dated 9.9.2021.

Respected Sir,

With reference to your office letter dated 9.9.2021 on the subject cited above, I am directed to inform you that, in Maharashtra, total 195 Sugar factories (Co-operative & Private) are operational. Average crushing days in the last 5 crushing season are ranging between 120 to 130 days. The daily installed crushing capacity of sugar factories in Maharashtra is apptroximately 8.0 LMT. If we consider 160 normal crushing days for a season, then requirement of sugarcane is 1360 LMT. However, highest crushing in Maharashtra is 1014 LMT. That is because same sugar factories of the Maharashtra State are underperforming.

- 2. Along with distilleries of co-operative and private sugar factories, 35 standalone distilleries are in the State producing Rectified Spirit or Ethanol. These standalone distilleries can get ample supply of B-heavy molasses as well as sugarcane juice or sugar syrup as Government of India has given permission to sugar factories to sell it. Also Sugar factories or distillieries require huge investment for erection. The Maharashtra State Sugar factories Co-operative federation Ltd, Mumbai (Sakhar Sangh) and West Indian Sugar Mills Association (WISMA) are of the opinion, that provision of minimum distance criteria in the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, should be applied to these standalone distilleries as well.
- 3. Therefore, it is proposed that the minimum distance criteria should not be relaxed or altered for the existing as well as new standalone distilleries.

Thanking you,

Yours,

(Ankush P. Shingade)

Deputy Secreatary

to the Government of Maharashtra.

[draft approved by Principal Secretary (Cooperation)]

he Commissioner Sugar, Maharashtra State, Sakhar Sankul, Shivaji Nagar, Pune