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Sugar sales hit due to Covid-19; cooperative mills seek more time to clear unsold quota: NFCSF

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The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF) on Monday demanded that the government give more time to clear the unsold sugar quota as sales have been hit due to the pandemic. Mills are also finding it difficult to sell sugar at a government-fixed rate of Rs 31 per kg. They are facing fund crunch and not able to make

cane payment to growers on time, it said. With slump in sugar demand, NFCSF urged the government to allocate lesser sugar quota for sale in the next month. For April, the government has fixed a record sugar sale quota of 22 lakh tonne.

The government fixes sugar sale quota every month based on production figures of mills across the country so that all small and big mills can sell

sugar. According to NFCSF President Jaiprakash Dandegaonkar, there has been reduced sugar sales by nearly 1 million tonne due to sluggish demand owing to the nationwide lockdown imposed in March last year.