

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2231  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2000  
LIBERALISATION OF OPEN SALE OF WHEAT  
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL);Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the Government have liberalised the open market sales scheme for wheat;
- (b) if so, whether this scheme has helped the people and also reduced the food stocks with the FCI; and (
- (c) the other steps being considered to provide the wheat to the poor and down-trodden people at a cheaper rate?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

( SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN )

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The open market sale scheme has been liberalised w.e.f. 1.12.1999 and FCI has been instructed to ensure that purchasers shall not be refused issue of wheat from any godown in case the indented quantities are available. District Manager, FCI will ensure that issue of stocks to the buyers is made on the first-come first served basis. During the period 1.12.1999 to 29.2.2000 a total quantity of 22.72 lakh MTs is reported to have been sold under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic).

(c) It has been decided to increase the allocation of wheat under PDS for BPL families from 10 Kg. per family per month to 20 Kg. per family per month w.e.f. 1.4.2000.