

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1334  
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007  
HOARDING OF WHEAT  
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether complaints of large-scale hoarding of wheat by traders and millers has been received by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has decided to intervene by effecting a duty cut on wheat flour;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps Government proposes to take to meet the situation?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION(DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

- (a) : No such complaints of large scale hoarding have been received.
  - (b) : No such decision has been taken.
  - (c) : In view of (b) above, question does not arise.
  - (d) : Vide Central Order dated 29.08.2006 State/UT Governments have been empowered to impose stock limits in respect of wheat. All the States/UTs have also been advised to take effective action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to bring out the hoarded stocks, if any, into the open market.
- Central Government have also taken a number of other measures to augment domestic availability of wheat, some of which are as follows:
- (i) Import by State Agencies;
  - (ii) Permitting private imports at zero duty;
  - (iii) Banning exports;
  - (iv) Fixation of a higher Maximum Support Price(MSP) to maximize procurement.