

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:777

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

SUBSIDISED WHEAT

Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has decided to supply 3 million tonnes of wheat at subsidised price of Rs. 1170/- per quintal against the procurement price of Rs. 1822/- per quintal to Flour millers and biscuit-makers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the benefits the bulk consumers are likely to derive therefrom; and
- (c) the manner in which the same is proposed to be passed on to the consumers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) , (b) & (c): The Government released wheat for bulk sale under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) with an objective to offload part of surplus stocks in the Central Pool and to make available wheat in the open market to stabilize wheat prices particularly during lean season. The Government accordingly decided to sell 3 million tonnes of wheat to Bulk Users/ Roller Flour Millers/ Traders through open tenders by Food Corporation of India upto March, 2013 for domestic consumption under the Scheme. Reserve price for such sale was initially fixed at Rs. 1170/- per quintal and 13.02 lakh tonnes wheat was allocated for sale in the States/UTs during the period from July, 2012- September, 2012. The reserve price has since been increased to Rs. 1285/- per quintal. The sale under OMSS will increase the availability of wheat in open market and therefore will help in moderating the prices of wheat and wheat flour for the end consumers.