

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:796

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

PROCUREMENT THROUGH PRIVATE AGENCIES

Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Singh Shri Vijay Bahadur

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to involve private agencies in procurement and storage of foodgrains with a view to solve the problem of storage of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the increase in storage capacity and foodgrains stocks during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to permit export of foodgrains by the said private procurement agencies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government is not considering any proposal to involve private agencies for procurement of foodgrains. However, due to increased procurement of foodgrains and to reduce the storage under Cover and Plinth(CAP), the Government formulated the Private Entrepreneurs' Guarantee(PEG) Scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under the Scheme, a capacity of about 181.08 lakh tonnes is being created in 19 States. For construction of the storage capacity under the Scheme, CWC/SWCs/State Government agencies are appointed as implementing agencies on behalf of FCI. Details of increase in storage capacity available with FCI and foodgrain stocks available in the Central Pool during last three years are at Annexure- I.

(c)&(d): Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.