

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2711

ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to grant relaxation on import of foodgrains owing to its shortage caused due to drought like conditions in the country;
- (b) if so, the estimated shortfall in production and stock of foodgrains in the country;
- (c) the foodgrains in tonnes likely to be imported;
- (d) the names of countries from which such foodgrains are proposed to be purchased; and
- (e) the steps taken to end the reliance on imported foodgrains and make the country self-reliant in foodgrain availability?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): No, Madam. India is self-reliant in the field of foodgrains viz. wheat and rice. As on 1st August, 2012, a quantity of 76.0 million MT of foodgrains (Wheat & Rice) in Central Pool Stocks is available against the Buffer Norms of 31.9 million MT as on 01.07.2012. Since there is no shortfall of foodgrains in Central Pool stocks, there is no need to import foodgrains.