

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2743
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
STOCK LIMIT ON PROCUREMENT
Kumar Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to limit grain procurement to the needs of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in view of the storage problem being faced in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has been receiving requests from the State Governments to increase procurement of wheat from their States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The procurement policy of foodgrains followed by the Government is open ended. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at the MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. No such requests have been received from State Governments.