

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:261
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013
ALLOCATION TO FLOUR MILLS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has taken any decision to regulate the allocation of wheat to the flour mills under the open market sales scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether wheat from the Central pool is being sold to the flour mills due to shortage of wheat in the open market;
- (d) if so, whether any apprehension has been expressed regarding its adverse effect on the distribution of wheat under the Public Distribution System; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): During the current financial year Government of India has allocated 85 lakh tonnes of wheat for tender sale by FCI to bulk consumers/traders etc. and 10 lakh tonnes of wheat for sale to small private traders/ atta chakkis from FCI godowns for period upto March, 2014 under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic).

(c): Wheat under the scheme is sold to augment availability of wheat in open market with a view to check the rise in prices of wheat as also to offload surplus stocks from the Central Pool in order to create storage space.

(d)&(e): Wheat under the scheme is sold through the channels other than PDS (Public Distribution System). Further adequate quantity is available with the Central Pool to meet the annual requirement of wheat under PDS. Therefore, there is no effect on distribution of wheat under the Public Distribution System.