

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2977
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013
EXPORT OF WHEAT
Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla

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

- (a) whether a number of countries have expressed their interest to import wheat from India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps taken thereon; and
- (c) the steps taken to encourage export of wheat from the country?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam. There is no formal request received from any country for import of wheat from India. However, last year there was a proposal to export wheat to Iran on Government to Government basis but it has not materialised due to phytosanitary requirements from Iran Government.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The Government has allowed export of wheat from the country under "Free category" since 09-09-2011. Further, in view of the comfortable position of wheat in Central Pool, temporary constraint of storage space and encouraging demand for Indian wheat in the international market, the Government has allowed export of 45 lakh tons of wheat from Central Pool stocks of Food Corporation Of India (FCI) upto 30-6-2013 through the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) of the Department of Commerce by following competitive global tendering process.

The Government has also approved sale of additional 50 lakh tons of wheat till 30-6-2013 from FCI Godowns in Punjab & Haryana from the wheat stocks pertaining to Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2011-12 for export purpose through private traders. Tenders were floated by FCI five times, but there was no response from the private traders.

Recently on 08-08-2013, the Government has approved export of a further quantity of 20 lakh tons of wheat from Central Pool Stocks through the CPSUs during the current financial year 2013-14