

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021**

MINIMUM PURCHASE AMOUNT

2981. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION** उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has revised the minimum purchase amount under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) (D) policy to 5 rakes that translates to 13250 MT of food grains and has removed the maximum purchase amount and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this amount is beyond the capacity of any small/medium scale buyer and allows only a few multibillionaires to capture and control the supply and if so, the reasons for revising the purchase limits; and
- (c) whether the OMSS is meant to moderate the open market prices especially during the lean season by releasing wheat and rice at predetermined prices from time to time and this purpose is now being defeated by lifting the upper limit of purchasing food grains and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a): Yes Sir. Sale/movement of wheat through rake under OMSS (D) policy 2021-22, bidders who intend to purchase large quantity in a single e-auction will be allowed to participate. A bidder will have to bid for minimum 05 rakes (one rake = 2650 MT) and there will be no upper restriction on number of rakes that a bidder may bid.

(b): Under OMSS (D) 2021-22, small private trader can purchase wheat from 1-9 MT per person per depot from nominated FCI/State Agency depots without participation in e-auction. Further a bulk consumer/trader can bid for the Minimum and maximum quantity of wheat ranging from 10 MT (in multiple of 10) and 5000 MT respectively. For rice the minimum and maximum quantity that a bulk consumer/trader can bid is 50 MT and 3500 MT respectively.

(c): The objective of the OMSS (D) scheme is to offload the Foodgrain stocks in central pool over and above buffer and strategic reserve norms through open sale. Since the introduction of OMSS (D) scheme for the year 2021-22, there is substantial increase in quantum of sale compared to last year which is serving the very objective of offloading of surplus stock as well as controlling inflationary trends in economy.
