

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:915
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
FOODGRAINS STOCKING POLICY
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether due to the starvation deaths at a time when there was overflowing granaries of foodgrains in the country, the Government have decided to examine the option of drastically changing the policy of stocking foodgrains;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have set up a Committee to look into the policy of foodgrains;
- (c) if so, whether these recommendations have been approved by the Planning Commission; and
- (d) the extent to which the new policy ensures that interests of the producers are not hurt and to ensure foodgrains stocks to be used in such a manner as to check price rise and prevent hunger death?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S L MAHARIA)

- (a): At present there is no proposal for any change in the procurement and stocking policies of foodgrains in the country.
- (b)&(c): A High Level Committee was constituted by this Department to formulate a Long Term Grain Policy. The Department has examined the major recommendations made by this Committee. The comments of the Planning Commission have also been obtained.
- (d): Does not arise as there has been no change in policy.