

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3775
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
IMPORT OF WHEAT
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

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

- (a) whether talks between India and the United States on market access for U.S. wheat have failed; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): A delegation of officials from the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation as part of ongoing bi-lateral negotiations on plant health held discussions with U.S. authorities in May, 2007. The request of the USA for relaxation of Phytosanitary norms regarding tolerance levels of quarantine weed seeds in wheat consignments was not accepted by India, in view of likely threat of entry of quarantine weeds into the country, which do not exist presently in India. No import consignments, not conforming to the Phytosanitary specifications prescribed under Plant Quarantine (regulation of import into India) Order, 2003, will be permitted entry into the country.