

**Scaling down of procurement of wheat**

†\*386. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has set a ceiling by scaling down the Government procurement of upcoming yield of wheat crop due to non-availability of ample capacity of foodgrain storage in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target set for Government procurement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Estimates for procurement of wheat for the Central Pool are made in consultation with the wheat-producing States based on the expected production of wheat in the concerned crop year. Estimate of procurement for RMS 2013-14 is 441.21 lakh tonnes based on the expected production of wheat and inputs given by the States.

**Awareness about fraudulent schemes of MLM companies**

\*387. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has decided to go digital to create awareness among investors about fraudulent schemes floated by Multi-Level Marketing (MLM) companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move is intended to sensitise people who continue to get duped by fraudulent investment schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) whether the Ministry has also asked all the State Governments to take strict action against MLM companies that are found indulging in fraudulent schemes; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT) : (a) to (d) Creation of awareness among investors is primarily through the Investor Awareness Programmes conducted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in association with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and the Institute of Cost Accountants of India. These programmes aim at spreading investor awareness throughout the country. The Institutes conduct the programmes in various cities and towns (including small towns) and include distribution of booklets on investor awareness in different languages. In order to reach out to larger section of the society, it has been recently decided to send bulk short messages on BSNL's network, crawler/ticker message on the news channel of Doordarshan and its Regional Kendras. In addition, a brief investor awareness message is planned to be displayed on Post Office Savings Bank Passbooks. Besides, to ensure better utilisation of resources and increase the outreach of messages, the possibility of having joint campaigns through organisations like SEBI is also being explored.

(e) and (f) The Minister of Corporate Affairs has written to State Chief Ministers requesting State Governments to issue instructions to their State Police Authorities for vigorous action under the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 as 'MLM' activities fall within the purview of Money Circulation Scheme (The said Act is administered by the Ministry of Finance). The Minister has also written to the Hon'ble Finance Minister to increase surveillance by the Reserve Bank of India over unauthorized Non-Banking Finance Companies. Model rules under the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 have been sent by the Ministry of Finance to the State Government for notification.

#### **Proportional representation to Muslims in NCM**

\*388. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Muslims constitute 73 per cent of all the notified minorities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have not got representation in the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) in that ratio; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to provide proportional representation to Muslims in that Commission?