

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4641  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001  
M.S.P. FOR LENTIL  
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have approved the Minimum Support Price of Rs. 1200 per quintal for fair average quality Masur (lentil);
- (b) if so, whether this price is applicable on produce of 2000-01 season to be marketed in 2001-2002;
- (c) if so, whether this price was fixed on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices;
- (d) if so, the extent to which this is likely to benefit the farmers in the States;
- (e) the details of other schemes cleared by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the States that are likely to be benefited under this scheme?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (f): The Government has recently decided to include Masur (lentil) under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme and has fixed the MSP for masur at Rs.1200 per quintal for fair average quality (FAQ) for the 2000-01 crop to be marketed in rabi marketing season 2001-2002. The MSP of masur has been fixed on the basis of the Report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) and other factors considered important in price fixation. This will benefit the farmers all over the country, particularly, in the major masur producing States like, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Under MSP Scheme, the extent of benefits depend upon the behaviour of market price vis-à-vis Minimum Support Prices and as such it cannot be quantified. The MSP scheme covers 25 agricultural commodities, including lentils and no other agricultural commodities has been brought under its purview recently.