

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:495
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2000
PRICE OF PADDY
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that on the one hand there is rise of urea price and on the other there is almost a serious downfall in the paddy price specially of high yield varieties causing tremendous hardships to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interests of the farmers and to provide remunerative price to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) The price of urea was increased with effect from 29th February 2000. The WPI of rice has fluctuated during the year and as on 8th July 2000, the WPI of rice was lower by 0.5% over the corresponding period last year.

(b) To ensure the remunerative prices to the farmers the government announces each year the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of paddy which, inter alia are based on the cost of cultivation of the crop and include costs of input like fertilizers used by the farmers. The procurement of paddy at MSP is also ensured through central/state nodal agencies.