

[Translation]

Support Prices

4732. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make any changes in the support prices of various crops during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the support prices are likely to be increased over 1996-97, crop-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices already announced for Rabi Crops and Copra for the marketing year 1997-98 are as under:

Crop	(Rs. per quintal)	
	Minimum Support Price for 1997-98 marketing season	Increase Over 1996-97
Wheat	475*	95
Barley	305	10
Gram	740	40
Repeseed/Mustard	890	30
Safflower	830	30
Toria	855	30
Copra Milling	2700	200
Ball	2925	200

Inclusive of Central bonus @ 60 per quintal announced recently by the Government.

The Minimum Support Prices in respect of Kharif Crops and Jute for 1997-98 season are at present under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Increase in Custodial Deaths

4733. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Steady Increase in Custody Deaths Reported, and Man Dies in Police Station" appearing in the 'Statesman', dated April 25, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the custodial deaths in the capital are rapidly increasing;

(c) if so, the total number of custodial deaths reported in the capital during the last three years and as on April 1, 1997; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against the officials involved therein and to minimise the custodial deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Number of Custodial Deaths reported in Delhi during the Years 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (upto 1.4.97) and Action take against police personnel thereon.

Year	No. of Custodial Death Reported	Criminal Cases Registered	No. of Police Personnel against whom criminal case Registered	No. of Police Personnel against whom departmental action taken
1994	2	2	12	15
1995	3	2	11	1
1996	3	2	8	14
1997 (upto 1.4.97)	-	-	-	-

The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent incidents of custodial deaths are as follows:

(i) A person arrested and kept in custody by the Police is offered an opportunity to inform a friend, relative or any other person who is known to him or likely to take an interest in his welfare.

(ii) Selected Senior Police Officers make surprise visits to police stations, police posts, assistance booths, check posts etc. to check violations of human rights, misbehaviour with women, treatment meted out to the persons seeking police assistance, etc.