

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4909
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
REMUNERATIVE PRICES TO FARMERS
Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Commission on Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) has made some recommendations to increase the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of certain crops to make it commensurate with the increase in the per capita income in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is imperative to eliminate the chain of middlemen in order to ensure remunerative prices to farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) has submitted its Report on Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 2008-09 season to the Government. Final decision regarding the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for the Kharif crops of 2008-09 season will be taken by the Government after obtaining the views of State Governments/UTs and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices.

(c) & (d): Appropriate procurement arrangements are made by the designated agencies to buy agricultural produce at MSP in different States. Further, with the amendment of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, the farmers now have more options to sell their produce to the prospective buyers. If the market price is more than the MSP fixed by the Government, farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market.