

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4031

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010

PAYMENT OF PROCUREMENT PRICE

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Kishor Shri Kamal

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures foodgrains from the farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any complaints against FCI for not paying MSP to the farmers within 48 hours of the purchase of foodgrains in various States including Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken by the Government for timely payment to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c): Government has not received any complaint against Food Corporation of India (FCI) for not paying MSP to the farmers within 48 hours of purchase. FCI has informed that sufficient number of purchase centres/ mandis are opened/operated in consultation/coordination with the respective State Governments. Wide publicity is also given about the MSP operations. As per the instructions issued by FCI to its field offices, payment is stipulated to be made within 48 hours of the procurement of the foodgrains.