

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:422

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009

DIRECT PROCUREMENT OF RICE FROM FARMERS

Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) whether there has been a demand for procurement of rice directly from the farmers by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) instead of the millers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that millers are exploiting farmers; and
- (d) the steps taken to curb the role of millers and end the exploitation of farmers?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): No report of exploitation of farmers by millers has been received from any State Government.

(d): As per the existing policy for food grains procurement, FCI and agencies of State Government procure paddy from the farmers so that benefit of MSP is made available to the farmers. In case of levy rice also, certification from State Government is obtained by FCI, that MSP (plus bonus, if any) has been paid by the millers to the farmers before releasing payment to millers)