

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2278  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010  
PROBLEM OF FARMERS  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether unremunerative prices to farmers for their agricultural produce has led to crisis in agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether lack of proper storage facilities, poor infrastructure like bad roads, lack of power are the main hurdles faced by the farmers from accessing buyers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to help farmers in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for major agricultural commodities with the objective to ensure remunerative prices to the growers. The MSPs are fixed, inter-alia, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries. Government also implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of State/UT Government for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under the Price Support Scheme if the price fall below the cost of production.

(c) to (e): Farmers face the problem of storage and other infrastructure bottlenecks. Government is implementing Bharat Nirman Yojana to strengthen the rural infrastructure. In addition, Government is implementing Grameen Bhandaran Yojana for creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas. Government has also set up regulated markets in states to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers under the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act.

In addition, the Government procures agricultural produce at MSP through designated central agencies to ensure remunerative price to farmers.