

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
HIKE IN PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS
Patle Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an acute rise in the prices of agricultural inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides, seeds etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the paddy growers of the country including Chhattisgarh do not get the remunerative prices for their produce in comparison to the input cost;
- (d) if so, the details of the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate some scheme to make agriculture more profitable sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The increase in the prices of major agricultural inputs in 2010-11 over 2009-10 in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is given below:

Input	% age increase
Fertilisers	8.2
Electricity (Irrigation)	7.6
Pesticides	1.9
Tractors	3.7
Diesel Oil (HSDO)	11.4

In terms of Variable Input Price Index estimated by the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), in case of Chhattisgarh the prices of various types of seeds has increased in the range of 3 to 3.50%. The CACP has also indicated that the daily wage rate for agriculture labour has increased by 17.94 % in 2010 over the previous year.

(c) & (d): The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for paddy for 2011-12 has been fixed at Rs.1080 per quintal for common variety and Rs.1110 per quintal for Grade A variety. The cost of production, which includes all the input costs for paddy, has been estimated by the CACP at Rs.777 per quintal for Chhattisgarh. The Government ensures MSP through procurement operations undertaken by the Central, State and cooperative agencies in the states including Chhattisgarh.

(e) & (f): The Government, inter alia, implements various schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) etc. with a view to increasing agricultural productivity and production to make agriculture more profitable.