

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1280  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011  
PROCUREMENT OF PADDY  
Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

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

- (a) whether many paddy farmers in the Diglipur and Rangat area of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are giving up paddy farming;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the public representative of the area has raised this issue on several occasions in the past;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon alongwith the reasons for non-procurement of paddy by the Government agencies from the region; and
- (e) the arrangements being made for procurement of the said paddy alongwith the time by which the entire produce of the farmers is likely to be procured?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): No Madam. There are no such reports available with the Department

(c) to (e): Communications dated 4th March, 2011 and 20th September 2011 were received from Shri Bishnu Pada Ray requesting procurement of rice/paddy from the farmers of Rangat and Diglipur Tehsil of Andaman & Nicobar at Minimum Support Price. A letter written by Shri Bishnu Pada Ray dated 2.9.2011 addressed to Secretary General, Lok Sabha has also been received. Andaman & Nicobar Islands has adopted Decentralized Procurement scheme (DCP) from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2003-04 and the primary responsibility to procure foodgrains lie with UT Administration. Government of India has already taken up with the Government of Andaman & Nicobar vide letter dated 30.8.2011 to make necessary arrangements for procurement of paddy.