

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4166

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011

MSP TO FARMERS

Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that in several areas of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, farmers are not getting even the Minimum Support Price for agricultural produce like cotton and maize and they are compelled to sale their products at a rate lower than the cost of production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to compensate their losses?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Central Government extends price support to cotton and maize through the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI), Food Corporation of India (FCI), Cooperative and State agencies. The cotton and maize conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their produce to CCI, FCI, Cooperative and State agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them. In addition State Governments are alerted from time to time to make adequate arrangements to ensure MSP to farmers.