

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:8  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012  
PROCUREMENT PRICE OF PADDY  
Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

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

- (a) whether the farmers across the country are entitled to a uniform Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are reports of distress sale of agricultural produce including that of the fact finding mission under the Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices, below the MSP;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken against those responsible, State-wise; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken to ensure procurement of the entire quantity of paddy produce, offered by the farmers at MSP?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b), (c) (d) & (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 8 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 13.3.2012 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam, as per the existing procurement policy, the Central Government extends price support for paddy, wheat and coarsegrains through the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Governments/ State agencies. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale by farmers at specified procurement centres are bought by the procurement agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State agencies at MSP or in the open market whatever is advantageous to them.

(c): No Madam. No such reports have been received by the Ministry.

(d): In view of (c) above, does not arise.

(e): Steps taken to ensure procurement of paddy produce offered by the farmers at MSP are at Annexure-I.