

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6338
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
FALL IN TURMERIC PRICE
Das Shri Khagen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there had been a sharp fall in the price of turmeric during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that turmeric farmers are not even getting the production cost of turmeric; and
- (d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to help the turmeric farmers?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per the whole price index data, the prices of turmeric in March for the years 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 was Rs.112.3, Rs.309.8, Rs.360.3 and Rs.157.4 respectively. The prices of agriculture produces, including turmeric depends on various factors like production, demand, consumer preferences and purchasing power, international prices etc. In order to provide minimum guaranteed price to the farmers, a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is implemented when the prices tends to fall below the cost of production. The MIS is implemented for those agricultural and horticultural commodities which are generally perishables in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme. The objective of MIS is to ensure that farmers are not forced to make distress sale of their produce. During the current crop season, on the request of Government of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, the Government has sanctioned Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of turmeric in their States.