

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:879
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009
DISTRESS SALE OF PADDY
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether the steps taken by the Government to check distress sale of paddy and other produces by farmers has borne the desired results particularly in the State of Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of complaints received in this regard and the steps taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether some States have sought assistance from the Union Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the Central assistance provided/proposed to be provided to the States to tackle the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): Under the existing policy for foodgrains procurement, Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Agencies of State Governments purchase all the foodgrains, conforming to the prescribed specifications, offered for sale by farmers at procurement centers at the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Before start of every Kharif/Rabi Marketing Season, State Governments are advised to give wide publicity of procurement operation, open sufficient number of purchase centres and take other initiatives in order to avoid distress sale.

As reported by FCI, there have been no reports of distress sale of paddy and wheat by any State Government, including Orissa.

(c): No, Madam.

(d)&(e): Does not arise.