

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:80
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
MSP FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES
Raghavan Shri M. K.;Thakor Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received requests from various farmers' associations and other stakeholders to announce higher support price for agricultural commodities during the current year for kharif and rabi crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on these requests;
- (c) the details of Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced for the above crops by the Government, so far;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to procure the agricultural commodities through its agencies directly from the farmers without the involvement of middlemen; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the farmers get adequate support price for their produce?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 80 DUE FOR REPLY ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2013.

(a) & (b): Representations have been received from time to time from various farmers' organizations and State Governments requesting for increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) holds consultations with various stakeholders including State Governments before finalizing its recommendations. The Report of the Commission is forwarded to all the State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned for their views before the Government finalises the MSPs for various crops. Government thereafter fixes the MSPs of various crops based on these recommendations of the CACP, the views of State Governments, concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors.

(c): Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major crops announced since 2011-12 are at Annexure.

(d) & (e): Government conducts price support operation for foodgrains and other agricultural commodities through its agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and Jute Corporation of India (JCI). Besides, State level agencies also undertake procurement operations. Foodgrains and other agricultural commodities conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by these public procurement agencies directly from the farmers who also have the option to sell their produce in the open market.