

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:254  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015  
MSP for Paddy  
Neta Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that the paddy farmers of various States of the country are not getting remunerative prices for their produce;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper remunerative prices for paddy farmers of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): Government ensures remunerative price to the growers by offering to procure their produce at Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government. However, farmers are free to sell it to Government agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

The procurement of paddy in terms of rice at MSP by the Government agencies since 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 is at Annexure. In addition, State Governments and the procurement agencies are alerted from time to time to ensure MSP to farmers.

(c): Apart from procurement at MSP being undertaken by the Government, to ensure that farmers get adequate price for their produce, States/UTs have been advised to amend their respective State APMC Acts on the lines of Model Act, 2003. The Model Act provides for direct marketing, contract farming, farmers/consumer markets, setting up of markets in private and cooperative sectors, e-trading etc. Further, in order to encourage investment in marketing infrastructure development, Government is, inter alia, implementing capital investment subsidy schemes such as development/strengthening Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardisation (AMIGS) and Gramin Bhandaran Yojana (GBY). In addition, Government is also implementing Marketing Research and Information Network (MRIN) with the objective to collect and disseminate prices and arrival data for the benefit of farmers and other stakeholders to facilitate the farmers in taking better production and marketing decisions to get more remunerative prices for their produce.

In addition, the Government has approved the Central Sector Scheme for promotion of National Agriculture Market through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (A-ITF). The Scheme provides for a pan-India electronic trading portal which seeks to network the existing Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMC) and other market yards to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.