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Title : Need to direct Food Corporation of India to procure paddy from the farmers in KBK district of Orissa.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN (DEOGARH): Farmers in Orissa are struggling with unsold stock of paddy. The Orissa High Court had ordered Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the State Government to procure paddy at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from the farmers. The State Government Corporation has procured rice directly from the farmers according to the High Court order. FCI on the other hand has not procured the 'desired quantity' stipulated by the High Court from farmers in Orissa. Farmers in the State continue to indulge in distress sale. The condition of farmers in the backward districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) is particularly serious. Unless intervened immediately their situation will surely worsen further.

The Central Government needs to instruct the FCI authorities to take remedial measures at the earliest.

I earnestly request the hon. Prime Minister to intervene in the matter and instruct the FCI authorities to take remedial measures at the earliest so as to bring justice to the aggrieved farmers in the State.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): Sir, May I associate myself with Shri Pradhan? He has mentioned my district.