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Title: Procurement of Kharif Paddy crop by FCI at village level in West Bengal.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: I would like to raise a very important matter regarding procurement of food crops, particularly the paddy crop. The Minimum Support Price of paddy is not sufficient. It is neither remunerative nor supportive. Moreover, the procurement has not yet been started. The harvesting of paddy crop is almost over across the country. In West Bengal this year 19 lakh MT of paddy crop has been targeted for procurement and out of that FCI has been assigned to procure 12 lakh MT. [\[R80\]](#) But the FCI has not yet started the procurement. I would like to request the Ministry of Agriculture to immediately start the procurement in the rural areas so that the distress sale can be arrested and the poor people can be saved.