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Title: Need to increase minimum support price of paddy, cotton and other agriculture commodities.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (NALGONDA): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the august House and the Union Government that a big agitation is taking place in Andhra Pradesh for raising the Minimum Support Price of paddy to Rs.1000 per quintal on par with the MSP of wheat. Earlier there used to be parity in the Minimum Support Price of these two crops.

I appreciate the decision of the Government of India for giving the Minimum Support Price of Rs.1000 per quintal of wheat. This is very much justified. The cost of the inputs of the paddy has increase abnormally like any other crop. The expenditure per acre of paddy production in Andhra Pradesh State is much higher than the rest of the country. The present MSP of paddy is less than the cost incurred by the peasants.

Even though the Government has increased the MSP of paddy by announcing a bonus of Rs.50 twice, it is not sufficient enough to meet the expenditure. I would request the Government to take a positive decision in this regard. I would also urge upon the Government to increase the MSP of cotton and other agricultural crops as the cost of inputs and other expenditure on agriculture are increasing.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I would like to associate with him...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can send the slips mentioning names.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. Mr. Thomas, you have not even bothered to give notice and are trying to take advantage of other Members' notices.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Shri Bikram Keshari Deo would like to associate with him.