

>

Title: Need to fix the Minimum Support Price of paddy at Rs. 1800 per quintal for 2012-13.

SHRI S. ALAGIRI (CUDDALORE): Mr. Chairman, thank you. Today, the condition of agriculturists is very worst. North-east and south-west monsoon has totally failed. There is no water for irrigation. There is no power to operate the pump sets. So, agriculturists are in a pitiable condition. There is no water especially in the Cauvery delta area. After the plantation is over, in Mettur dam there is no water. Even after the Supreme Court's order we are not able to get the water in the Mettur dam. So, the whole Cauvery delta area is totally vanished.

In this condition, the Government should increase the Minimum Support Price for paddy. In UPA I, when hon. P. Chidambaram was the Finance Minister, for the first time he gave Rs. 1,000 per quintal for the paddy procurement. But after that the ratio has not been increased properly. Now, the agriculturists want Rs. 1,800 per quintal for paddy. Then only the Minimum Support Price will be useful for the agriculturists.

Another point is that the calculation of production system done by the Costing Department of the Government of India is not fair. The production cost calculating system is not fair. The production cost of paddy is pvery high. It requires more water. It requires more fertilizers and pesticides. But, practically, now they have given more price for wheat but not given equal price for paddy. So, I would request that you should instruct the Government of India or you should instruct the costing Department to look into this. They have to look into how the production cost is calculated. Then only the cost should be finalised. The production cost of paddy is higher. So, they should give more price for paddy.

SHRI P. LINGAM (TENKASI): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with Shri S. Alagiri regarding giving more price for paddy which he raised during the 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (THENI): Sir, I would also like to associate with Shri A. Alagiri regarding giving more paddy price which he raised during the 'Zero Hour.'

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may send the slips.