

Title: Need to cancel Government Order converting certain fine varieties of paddy into common. -Laid.

SHRI K. S. RAO (MACHILIPATNAM): Sir, widespread discontentment and frustration is being caused to farmers of this country who are adversely affected by the orders issued by the Food Corporation of India through the Government Order, dated 16-9-1997 wherein paddy varieties 2067, 2077 and 1001 have been converted from fine to common, thereby reducing the prices by Rs.30/- per quintal. All these years they are recognised as a fine variety and the price fixed by the Government of India was Rs.445/- per quintal. Suddenly, by this new Government order, the price has been reduced to Rs.415/-. Each farmer is put to a loss of about Rs.1000/- by this decision. Hence, keeping in view the plight of the suffering farmers, I request the hon. Ministers for Agriculture and Food & Civil Supplies to cancel the above Government order of 16-9-97 and save the farmers from huge losses and also inform the Food Corporation of India accordingly.