

Non-Purchase of Paddy in Andhra Pradesh

292. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is purchasing paddy in Andhra Pradesh direct from the ryots, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Union Government fixed support price for paddy and not for rice, if so, the conversion rate of paddy into rice for purpose of purchase by F.C.I. in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether as a result of non-purchase of paddy by F.C.I. and also as a result of the millers not purchasing the paddy from regulated market, the ryots in Andhra Pradesh are forced to sell their produce at lesser prices; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated to arrest this malady?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Food Corporation of India is procuring whatever paddy conforming to prescribed specifications is offered for sale under price support operation in Andhra Pradesh directly from farmers.

(b) The Government fixes support price for paddy at which paddy is procured by Food Corporation of India under price support operations on voluntary basis. The rice is procured from the rice millers under statutory levy fixed by the State Government at the prices fixed by the Central Government on the basis of the support price of paddy, the out-turn ratio and other procurement incidentals. The support price of paddy (All India) and the price of levy rice (for Andhra Pradesh) for 1989-90 kharif marketing season are as follows:

(Rs. per quintal)

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Paddy (All India)</i>	<i>Levy rice (Andhra Pradesh)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Common	185.00	304.15
Fine	195.00	319.90
Superfine	205.00	335.65

The conversion rate of each variety of paddy into rice for the purpose of collecting statutory levy from millers in Andhra Pradesh is 66.66%.

(c) and (d). The Food Corporation of India had opened 198 purchase centres both in districts having regulated markets

and also those who did not have regulated markets for extending price support in respect of paddy in Andhra Pradesh during current kharif marketing season. In view of recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh, the Government had relaxed specifications to enable FCI to procure 'rain-soaked' paddy at the support prices to avoid loss to the farm-

- ers. Till 27th July, 1990 in the current marketing season of 1989-90 about 1.54 lakh tonnes of paddy and 23.51 lakh tonnes of levy rice have been procured in Andhra Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

Cancer Caused by X-Ray

293. SHRI HARISH PAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that X-ray can cause cancer even after 25 years;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any enquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) In the case of high X-ray exposure there is probability of cancer manifestation which can occur during a time interval ranging from 5 to 35 years. However, radiation doses administered for diagnostic purposes are quite low and occurrence of cancer is extremely unlikely. Diagnostic practices and procedures regulating X-rays in the country are under continuous surveillance by the Department of Atomic Energy.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Proposal to Regulate Fees Charged by Private Doctors and Hospitals

294. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to regulate the consultation/treatment fees chartered by the private doctors, Nursing Homes and Hospitals in the country;

(b) whether several State Governments have already adopted such a proposal; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) and (c). Under the Constitution, State Governments are competent to enact legislation for the control of Nursing Home and hospitals. In Maharashtra and Delhi the Nursing Home Acts/Rules regulate the standards to be maintained in Nursing Homes.

National Capital Region Project

295. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have embarked a project called 'National Capital Region' for the harmonious development of Delhi and parts of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what impact will the proposed conferment of Statehood on Delhi have on the above-mentioned National Capital Region Project?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). The National Capital Region Plan-2001 has been prepared under the provisions of National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985 for the National Capital Region which includes the Union Territory of