

Further, to increase the production of cereals in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat) and Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals)” subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture with effect from October, 2000 are under implementation to provide more flexibility to States based on local needs.

The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the States to increase investment in agriculture and allied sector has been launched.

Purchase of paddy at lower rate by traders

3672. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that traders are purchasing paddy at the rate of Rs. 650/- per quintal in Jharkhand whereas Food Corporation of India (FCI) has fixed the price at Rs. 900/- per quintal;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take against the trading community in Jharkhand; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that less amount paid to farmers by the traders is reimbursed and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Under the existing policy of foodgrains procurement, FCI and agencies of the State Governments procure paddy conforming to the prescribed specifications at Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government. However, farmers are free to sale their produce either to FCI/State Governments agencies or in the open markets as is advantageous to them. FCI has not received any complaint about sale of paddy by farmers in Jharkhand at less than the MSP.

Production and use of organic manure and cow products

†3673. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has got the cow-products (milk, dung and cow's urine) tested in laboratory that are being produced and sold in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the scientists of Rural Science and Technology Institute, Delhi visited certain villages of Haryana to learn about the economic independence based on organic manure and cow-products and prepared a report;

(c) whether the said reports has been received; and

(d) if so, the salient points of this report?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.