

plant protection chemicals, farm machinery etc. The state presented its achievements in the meeting of Selection Committee constituted for finalising the awards.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) of rice is recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) every year before sowing of kharif based on objective criteria and considering variety of relevant factors. For the year 2011-12, MSP has been fixed at Rs. 1080 per quintal for Common variety and of Paddy (Grade A) at Rs. 1110 per quintal, which is Rs. 80 per quintal more over the last year's MSPs.

Increase in production cost due to rise in input cost

1258. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been huge increase in production cost due to the rise of input cost; and

(b) if so, the input cost of paddy in 2001 and 2011 respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) There has been substantial increase in cost of production due to increase in input cost. As per the projections made by Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP), the input cost of paddy i.e. paid out cost including family labour (A2+FL) for 2001-02 and 2011-12 at all India level is Rs.340.94/quintal and Rs.672.52/quintal respectively.

Revival of sick dairy cooperatives

1259. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several dairy cooperatives have been reported economically sick and closed down during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to revive the closed dairy cooperatives and to provide financial assistance to those cooperatives reported economically sick; and