

Minimum Support Price of rice in Assam

2344. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has fixed the minimum support price for procuring rice at Rs.1,020-1,080 per quintal in Assam;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the farmers are selling their grains in the open market at Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 per quintal, because FCI is not buying enough paddy from local farmers and is not fixing enough procurement centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. The Government procures paddy at the Minimum Support Price. (MSP) announced by it every year, which is applicable for the entire country. The MSP of paddy for the current Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) and KMS 2012-13 are given below:

Marketing Seasons	Paddy	
	Common	Grade 'A'
2011-12	1080	1110
2012-13	1250	1280

(b) and (c) No, Sir. No such complaints have been received. During KMS 2011-12, FCI opened 13 procurement centres in Assam initially, which was subsequently increased to 21.

Disposal of consumer disputes in Assam

2345. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases disposed of by the Assam State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (CDRC) and Guwahati district forum since their inception;