

MSP of wheat and rice

2581. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to increase the MSP of wheat and rice by 50 per cent over the cost of their production;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its impact and the time-frame fixed for the same; and

(c) the details of the hike in the MSP of wheat and rice by Government in the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation, however, has not been accepted by the Government because MSP is recommended by CACP based on objective criteria, considering variety of relevant factors and prescribing an increase of at least 50% of cost may distort the market.

(c) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of wheat and rice for 2013-14 and 2014-15 season and the increase in their respective MSPs is given below:-

Commodity	Year		Increase
	2013-14	2014-15	Over 2013-14
Wheat	1400	1450	50
Paddy (Common)	1310	1360	50
Paddy (Grade A)	1345	1400	55

(₹ per quintal)

Long term strategy to increase production and productivity

2582. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken adequate action and formulated long term strategies to increase production, productivity and quality of food crops, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether improvement in quality of dairy, fisheries, poultry products and