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Title: Need to open Procurement Centres in paddy growing areas- laid.

SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): The Agriculturists all over India are demanding immediate hike in minimum support price of paddy. As there has been steep rise in the prices of inputs like seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, power, irrigation etc., the MSP for paddy announced recently by the Central Government i.e. Rs. 645/- p.q. for common variety and Rs. 675/- p.q. for grade A, does not reflect the present day cost of cultivation. Therefore, the agriculturists are demanding that the M.S.P. for paddy for this year must be above Rs. 1000/- p.q.

Separate Purchase Centres should be opened immediately throughout the Country particularly in all paddy growing regions.