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Title: Need to evolve a new mechanism for fixation of Minimum Support Price for the betterment of farmers.

SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY (MATHURA): Minimum Support Price set by the Government is an assurance for remunerative and stable price environment for farmers. The 2003 Alagh Committee and 2006 Swaminathan Committee reports recommended changes in fixing MSP; however, many recommendations are yet to be implemented. There is a need for strengthening the CACP and giving it a statutory status. Representation in the CACP should be opened up for more members from academic, agricultural and diverse regional backgrounds. Data for calculating of MSP should be of high quality. With inherent differences in agricultural practices in different parts of the country, a weighted average MSP will take into account differences in prices of irrigation, electricity, labour and cost of other raw materials, and ensure that States with higher cost of production do not suffer.

In the last three years, the MSP fixed for wheat and paddy have not increased in tune with inflation and cost of production. Considering the importance of MSP in improving agricultural productivity, it is essential to bring reforms for improving the lives of our farmers.