

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE
LEGISLATION

[English]

Nineteenth Report

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Chazipur): Sir, I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]STATEMENT RE: PROCURE-
MENT/MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES FOR
PADDY, KHARIF COARSE CEREALS,
PULSES, OILSEEDS AND RAW COTTON
FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): Sir, the Government have fixed the procurement prices for paddy, kharif

coarse cereals, kharif pulses, kharif oilseeds and raw cotton for 1988-89 season. The procurement price of all varieties of paddy in common group of fair average quality has been raised from Rs. 150 per quintal during 1987-88 marketing season to Rs. 160 per quintal for the 1988-89 marketing season.

For fine variety of paddy, the price will be Rs. 170 per quintal and for superfine variety of paddy Rs. 180 per quintal for the 1988-89 season.

The Government have fixed the procurement price for kharif coarse cereals viz., jowar, bajra, maize and ragi, of fair average quality at Rs. 145 per quintal for 1988-89 season, marking an increase of Rs. 10 per quintal over the price of Rs. 135 per quintal fixed for 1987-88 season.

It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide incentive to the farmers to step up the production and productivity of pulses. Accordingly, the minimum support prices of kharif pulses, namely, tur (arhar), urad and moong of 1988-89 crop have been fixed at Rs. 360 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 35 per quintal over the corresponding price for the produce of 1987-88 crop.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has been designated as the Central nodal agency to undertake purchase of kharif pulses of 1988-89 season at the minimum support price in collaboration with the State Cooperative Marketing Agencies designated by the State Governments.

To give a further boost to the production of oilseeds, the government has also increased the minimum support prices of oilseeds substantially. Accordingly, the minimum support price of groundnut-in-shell of 1988-89 crop has been fixed at Rs. 430 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 40 per quintal, over the previous year's level.

The minimum support price of soybean (yellow) of 1988-89 crop shall be Rs. 320 per quintal as against Rs. 300 per quin-