

# The Loot of Peasantry

The All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee made a study on the minimum support prices of various crops and concluded that the peasants were robbed to the tune of Rs.36,000 crores in the last kharif season by depressing the prices for their produce less than the MSP.

The loss estimates have been arrived at by multiplying the projected arrivals of seven main kharif crops in whole sale markets in major producing states with the difference between the average market price and the MSP. The average mandi price has been arrived at from 100 major markets for each crop over a period of time.

The amount to be sold was arrived at by deducting estimates of own consumption from the production estimates.

The crops taken for loss calculation are paddy, maize, bajra, soybean, groundnut, cotton and urad dal.

The representative of AIKSCC said that the loss could be as much as Rs.2,00,000 crore if the loss is estimated from the actual cost of production plus 50 per cent profit as assured by the ruling party in its election manifesto of 2014.

Crop	MSP Rs./qtl	Avg.mkt. price rs/qtl	estimate of sales	loss for farmers
Paddy	1,550	1,397	7,985	12,218
Maize	1,425	1,130	1,549	4,866
Bajra	1,425	1,101	593	1,920
Soybean	3,050	2,711	1,163	3,944
Groundnut	4,450	3,834	569	3,507
Cotton	4,320	4,172	3,195	4,728
Urad dal	5,400	3,189	216	4,786
<b>Total</b>				<b>35,985</b>

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