

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has informed that during 1994-95 an amount of Rs. 21.06 lakhs has been spent toward hardware/software and site preparation of computerisation in Headquarters.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of sports

*37. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated new guidelines for the development and management of sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the performances of Sports in the country are on the decline; and

(d) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to improve the declining performance levels?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have formulated Revised Guidelines for grants to apex sports bodies for the development and management of sports in the country. The guidelines cover areas such as conditions for recognition, prioritisation of sports disciplines, scales of assistance for coaching camps, sports equipment, competition abroad, national/international championships, selection procedure, development of coaches/referees and management practices of apex sports bodies. The guidelines are yet to be finally approved

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, in order to improve performance levels the Government have taken a number of steps in the fields of sports. These steps include the following:

(i) The Government recognises the need to select the events and disciplines for the 1998 Asian Games carefully and then concentrate the resources and expertise on them over a longer duration.

(ii) Concerned efforts are being made to improve the standard of performance of our juniors by providing them with intensive training.

(iii) The schemes of Sports Authority of India for grooming talented young children are being streamlined.

(iv) Efforts are also being made to establish sports Academies in selected disciplines in coordination with the concerned National Federations, Public and Private Sector undertakings and Sports Authority of India.

(v) National Sports Federations were asked to prepare Long Term Development Plans for the Olympics and Asian Games disciplines and as part of the plan a four year development plan coinciding with the Asian Games cycle is being prepared. These plans cover areas such as athlete development, coaching and official development, growth of clubs, domestic tournaments and international tournaments, equipment and scientific support, professional and financial management development. The plans have been prepared and approved in principle. These will be reviewed periodically.

Passing of Excise Duty Benefits to Consumers

*38 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of industries have not passed on excise rebate to the consumers;

(b) whether Ministries of the Government have stated that there is no law under which action can be taken against the erring industries;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering to introduce any legislation providing penal action against those erring industries who have failed to pass on excise rebates to the consumers;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether the Ministry have forwarded the list of erring industries to the concerned Ministries including the Finance Ministry; and

(f) if so, their names and the action taken by Ministries against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) BICP has been requested to conduct a study of select items for which substantive reduction in Excise/ Customs duties were effected in 1995-96 budget to ascertain whether the industries have passed on the benefits to the consumers and submit its findings.

(b) to (d) Ministry of FINANCE has indicated that there is no provision in the Central Excise Laws for taking action against manufacturers for not passing the benefit of duty concessions announced in the budget to the consumers. However, MRTP Commission have recently informed that

" in case the Govt. extends the benefit of excise duty concessions to a specified industry/ industries on the condition that the prices of the product will be reduced to the extent concessions given and in case the industry does not pass on the benefits, it becomes a case of restrictive Trade Practice of manipulation of prices and action could be taken against them under MRTTP Act".

(e) and (f) The findings would be forwarded to all the concerned Ministries as soon as they are received from the BICP.

Prices of Essential commodities

*39. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is tremendous increase in prices of most of the essential commodities particularly vegetables, cereals etc. in the recent past all over the country; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the steps taken by the Government to control them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) A statement showing percentage variation in the Wholesale Price Indices of essential commodities including cereals and vegetables is attached.

(b) The availability of most of the essential commodities like sugar, foodgrains, edible oils, etc. is comfortable. The upward pressure on the prices of pulses like arhar, etc. is on account of existing gap between the demand and supply, their stagnant production for several years and their limited availability in the international market. The rise in the prices of vegetables is purely on account of poor arrivals of vegetables in the lean supply season. As far as cereals like rice and wheat are concerned, adequate buffer stocks are available and the same are being supplied through the Public Distribution System at subsidised prices. The Food Corporation of India has also stepped up its open market sale operations of rice and wheat in selected centres. In the case of pulses, apart from taking certain long-term measures to increase the production of pulses in the country, other steps taken by the Government to contain the rise in prices of pulses include placing pulses under open General Licence for imports, reduction of customs duty on import of pulses from 10% to 5% etc. The important items like rice wheat, sugar, palmolein, kerosene and softcoke are being supplied to the consumers through PDS at a price lower than the market prices.

STATEMENT

Percentage variation in the WPI of essential commodities during the week ending 8.7.95 over different periods.

Commodities	Over 1 week	Over 2 weeks	Over 1 month	Over 3 months	Over 6 months
Cereals	-0.1	Steady	+0.7	+1.0	+1.8
a) Rice	-0.1	Steady	+0.4	+ 3.3	+4.8
b) Wheat	+0.1	-0.5	+0.1	-4.1	-6.9
Jowar	+0.2	+1.0	+4.3	+6.9	+14.7
Bajra	-0.5	+1.8	+3.0	Steady	+13.8
Gram	+0.2	steady	-1.2	-10.0	-26.8
Arhar	+ 1.4	+0.8	+ 10.5	+ 20.7	+45.8
Sugar	+0.2	+0.7	+0.9	+0.8	steady
Vanaspati	steady	steady	steady	+0.1	+4.3
Groundnut oil	+0.3	+0.8	+1.0	+1.8	+18.4
Mustard oil	+3.6	+3.8	+1.9	-6.2	-5.4
Vegetables	+2.7	+2.2	+5.4	+32.2	+58.3
Tea	-1.3	-1.3	+6.6	+40.5	+9.3
Salt	+7.0	+22.0	+29.0	+35.5	+47.1