

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 876**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022

**RISE IN INFLATION**

876. SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that India's retail inflation rate is rising which is affecting the country's economy and due to which the common man is suffering from difficulties and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) the reasons ascertained by the Government for the rise in the inflation rate;
- (c) the inflation rate in the country during each of the last five years and the current year;
- (d) the measures taken and/or proposed to be taken by the Government to lower the inflation rate; and
- (e) whether the Government has any solid plan to give major relief to the common man in inflation matter and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Details of the retail inflation rate based on Consumer Price Index-Combined (CPI-C) for the last five years and the current year are given below

**Retail Inflation based on CPI-C (Base 2012) (Y-o-Y) (%)**

Year/Month	Retail Inflation Rate (%)
2017-18	3.59
2018-19	3.41
2019-20	4.77
2020-21	6.16
2021-22	5.51
2022-23	
April	7.79
May	7.04
June	7.01
July	6.71
August	7.00
September	7.41
October (Provisional)	6.77

Source: NSO, MoSPI

Soaring commodity prices at the international level and pandemic-induced supply-demand imbalances have caused a rise in the inflation rate worldwide, including in India. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has exacerbated the inflationary pressures in crude oil, gas, metals and edible oils (sunflower). Further, the onset of heat waves and uneven rainfall in the later part of the monsoon season has led to crop damage and a rise in vegetable prices. Recently, inflation rate has come down to 6.77 per cent in October 2022.

(d) & (e): The price situation of major essential commodities is monitored by the Government on a regular basis and corrective action is taken from time to time. Several supply-side measures have been taken by the Government to address inflation and to ensure that the poor do not have to bear the extra financial burden. These include *inter alia*, reduction in excise duty by Rs. 8 per litre on petrol and Rs. 6 per litre on diesel on May 21, 2022, prohibition of export of wheat products under HS Code 1101, imposition of export duty on rice, reduction in import duties and cess on pulses, rationalization of tariffs and imposition of stock limits on edible oils and oil seeds, maintenance of buffer stock for onion and pulses, the inclusion of soya meal as an essential commodity in the schedule of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and imposition of a stock limit on soya meal.

In addition, measures especially directed towards the common man include the Targeted Public Distribution System, under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) which is the largest public food-security program in the world covering around 80 crore people in the country. The food security response of the Government through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) combined with the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme provides support to the poor.