

Budget Speech for 1991-92, Govt. proposed to disinvest a part of its share holding in selected public sector undertakings in favour of the public sector financial institutions, mutual funds, workers and the general public. In pursuance to this Government have already sold 8% shares in 30 public sector undertakings to public sector financial institutions, mutual funds and the merchant banks who would gradually off-load the shares in favour of the common people and small inventors. In regard to sale of shares to the workers, the details are still being worked out.

#### **Prices of Essential Commodities**

1257. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of essential commodities including sugar, vegetables, different types of pulses, onions, edible oils turmeric, red chillies and cummin seeds in the open market as on April 30, 1992;

(b) whether there is a substantial increase in the prices of all such commodities;

(c) if so, the measures taken to control and bring down the prices thereof; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The retail prices of essential commodities including sugar, Vegetables, different types of pulses onions, edible oils, turmeric red chillies and cummin seeds on open market as in 30.4.1992 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Some variation in the prices of these commodities has been noticed in recent period due to gap in the demand and supply of pulses, edible oils and nearly inelastic supply of onions, turmeric, red chillies and cummin seeds during the summer season.

(c) and (d). To meet the shortfall in the supplies of edible oils, it is proposed to import palmolien oil. For other commodities efforts are being made to increase there production within the country through providing incentives for higher production as well as rational distribution. It is expected that with the measures taken by the Government, the supply of these commodities will improve.

## STATEMENT

Retail Prices of selected essential commodities at selected centres as on 30.4.1992

(Rs. per kg.)

| Commodity     | Delhi | Bombay | Lucknow | Calcutta | Madras |
|---------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|--------|
| 1             | 2     | 3      | 4       | 5        | 6      |
| Rice          | 7.00  | 7.40   | 5.00    | 6.00     | 6.20   |
| Wheat         | 4.50  | 7.20   | 3.50    | -        | 6.80   |
| Gram (dal)    | 10.00 | 11.00  | 9.25    | 9.50     | 9.80   |
| Tur (dal)     | 15.00 | 17.00  | 12.50   | 16.00    | 9.20   |
| Sugar         | 9.50  | 9.80   | 9.00    | 9.60     | 9.20   |
| Vanaspati     | 40.00 | 44.00  | 41.00   | 40.00    | 43.00  |
| Groundnut Oil | 44.00 | 38.00  | 50.00   | 45.00    | 34.00  |
| Musard Oil    | 30.00 | 36.00  | 28.00   | 30.00    | 44.00  |
| Potatoes      | 3.00  | 4.00   | 2.50    | 2.30     | 3.75   |

| Commodity                | Delhi | Bombay | Lucknow | Calcutta | Madras |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|--------|
| 1                        | 2     | 3      | 4       | 5        | 6      |
| Onions                   | 3.00  | 2.00   | 2.00    | 4.00     | 3.50   |
| Cumin seeds              | 80.00 | 100.00 | 85.00   | 80.00    | 90.00  |
| Red chillies (100 grams) | 8.00  | 5.50   | 8.70    | 8.00     | 4.50   |
| Turmeric (100 grams)     | 4.00  | 4.00   | 5.90    | 7.00     | 3.50   |
| Tea                      | 55.00 | 55.00  | 52.00   | 40.00    | 84.00  |
| Salt (packed)            | 3.00  | 3.00   | 3.00    | 2.00     | 3.00   |

Source: Dte. of Eco. & Statistics Ministry of Agriculture.