

**KAMAL NAYAN KABRA COMMITTEE**

1317. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4153 for May 2, 1995 and state :

(a) whether Government have favoured relaxing terms of Forward and Future Trading in the commodities;

(b) whether comments of the Ministry of Industry have been sought;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether his Ministry has held consultations with other Ministries on the recommendations of the Kamal Nayan Kabra Committee Report;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether all the Ministries have submitted their comments on the report; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Department of Civil Supplies) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) to (g) The Kabra Committee which was appointed *inter alia* to review the operations of the forward markets and to assess the role of the Forward Markets Commission, has since submitted its report to the Government.

The recommendations made by the Committee cover a wide spectrum of related issues including growers participation, infrastructural facilities of the associations, strengthening the Forward Markets Commission to the level of Security Exchange Board of India, in-built checks and devices in the commodity exchanges, duration of recognition granted to the association, to develop commodity exchange as self-regulatory organisations, and introduction of futures trading in additional commodities etc.

The various recommendations of Kabra Committee are under consideration of the Government in consultation with the other concerned Ministries including the Ministry of Industry.

Steps are underway to take a final decision on these recommendations at an early date.

[Translation]

**PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES**

1318. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of the essential commodities

are on constant increase during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government had promised to check the price rise within 100 days of their coming into power; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution System) (Shri Venod Sharma) : (a) A Statement showing the WPI for certain selected commodities for the last three years is enclosed;

(b) and (c) The Government had accorded the highest priority to controlling the prices of essential commodities. Towards this end a number of measures have been initiated. At present, there is a gap between the demand and supply of pulses and edible oils in the country. Imports of these commodities have been put under OGL at reduced import duty. The open market sale of wheat and rice by FCI have been intensified. Sugar was imported last year to tide over the temporary shortage in the country. Besides, long term measures have also been taken to increase the production of these commodities. Essential Commodities like wheat, rice, sugar, imported palmolein, kerosene and soft coke are being distributed through PDS at lower prices than the market rates. State Govt./UT Administration have been requested to supply other essential commodities like pulses, not books, etc. through fair price shops. Stringent action is being taken against blackmarketeers, hoarders and those indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 etc. A close watch is being kept on the availability and price levels of essential commodities so as to enable the Government to take timely remedial measures for checking the rise in prices.

**STATEMENT**

**Wholesale Price Indices of Selected Essential Commodities During Last Three Years as on 11.11.1995**

	(Current WPI) 11.11.95	(Over 1 Year) 12.11.94	(Over 2 Years) 13.11.93	(Over 3 Years) 14.11.92
1	2	3	4	5

Rice	320.2	299.5	279.6	252.5
Wheat	277.3	272.1	253.6	223.3
Gram	229.6	405.5	370.3	208.1
Arhar	520.3	363.7	345.2	290.8

1	2	3	4	5
Potatoes	535.0	364.3	420.5	328.8
Onions	379.0	375.9	465.5	162.3
Tea	396.5	266.9	340.3	282.5
Sugar	227.2	218.8	205.9	176.9
Salt	457.4	244.1	241.1	214.4
Vanaspati	256.3	248.9	243.7	269.5
Mustard Oil	268.7	245.4	217.5	220.5
Groundnut Oil	306.5	259.5	251.4	233.3
All Commodities	298.6	275.9	251.9	231.8

Source : Office of the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Industry

[English]

#### COUNCIL OF RURAL EDUCATION

1319. **Shri A. Venkatesh Naik :**  
**Shri R. Surender Reddy :**

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Council for Rural Education; and

(b) if so, the details of objectives of such a council?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) :** (a) and (b) The Government has set up a National Council of Rural Institutes w.e.f. October 19, 1995 with headquarters at Hyderabad. The objects for which the Council has been established (inter-alia) are to :

- (i) promote rural higher reduction on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary ideas on education so as to take up challenges of micro-planning for transformation of rural areas as envisaged in NPE 1986 (as modified in 1992);
- (ii) consolidate network and develop institutions engaged in programmes of Gandhian Basic Education and Nai Talim;
- (iii) encourage other educational and voluntary agencies to develop in accordance with Gandhian Philosophy of education;

(iv) strengthen teacher training facilities for Gandhian Basic Education;

(v) strengthen the content of all these institutions with emphasis on science and technology;

(vi) promote research as a tool for social and rural development; and

(vii) promote extension services to the community through micro level planning.

[Translation]

#### REMOVAL OF SLAUGHTER HOUSES

1320. **Shri Phool Chand Verma :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of accident of the MIG-27 Aircraft which occurred due to hitting by birds flying over the illegal slaughter houses near Hindon Airport, Loni; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government to remove all the slaughter houses being operated near Hindon Airport?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) :** (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The District Authorities have issued an order for stopping slaughter of animals within a radius of 10 kilometres from Hindon Airport. The operation of the order has been stayed by Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad. A Central sector scheme is under consideration of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for establishment of modern slaughter house at Ghaziabad and Loni. A carcass and by-products utilisation centre at Ghaziabad has also been sanctioned for preventing bird hit hazards to aircrafts.

[English]

#### PRICE OF COFFEE

1321. **Shri George Fernandes :** Will the Minister of Civil Supplies Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of Coffee has come down by 21 percent between August, 1994 and August, 1995 while the cost of processed instant coffee has gone up by 103.2 percent in the same period;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to control the price?