

(d) whether the Government will consider rationalisation of the procedure in the light of the Supreme Court judgement of 1984 relating to adoption of children; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN): (a) There is no general adoption law in the country. However, for Hindus there exists the Hindus Adoptions & Maintenance Act, 1956. The foreigners seek the guardianship of a child from a Competent Court under the Guardians & Wards Act, 1890 and adopt the child in their own country in accordance with their own laws.

(b) Different personal laws are applicable to different communities and it has therefore not been possible to have a common adoption law.

(c) In accordance with the directions of the Supreme Court only such of the societies registered under the Registration of Societies' Act as have been recognised by the Government of India for inter-country adoption of children can process the applications of foreigners for guardianship and sponsor addition in the court of law

(d) In the absence of a uniform law in view of the Supreme Court's judgements in Criminal Writ Petition No 1171 of 1982 the Government of India have already issued guidelines to systematise the procedures relating to adoption of children. Guidelines lay down the procedure for recognition of agencies for adoption, within and outside the country; the role of State governments and Union Territory administrations; the role of voluntary organisations and the procedures to be followed; role and nature of voluntary organisations which can take up this work

and the role of voluntary coordinating agencies, etc.

Price of Cement

250. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact the prices of cement have shown upward trend during the last six months despite Government's warning to the manufacturers not to increase prices;

(b) if so, the details of the price increase during the preceeding six months, month-wise;

(c) whether according to the manufacturers the price increase of cement has been effected due to increase in the prices of ingredients including coal, diesel and transportation etc.; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). There has been marginal increase in the price of cement during the last six months. The details of increase in cement prices per bag during the preceeding six months, month-wise at the 4 metro-politan cities are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). The increase in the price of cement has been due to increase in in-put costs viz. coal, power, transportation charges, cost of petroleum products, etc. The other main reasons are as under:-

(i) Regional imbalances in demand and availability of cement;

(ii) Localised infrastructural and production constraints.

STATEMENT*Retail Price of Cement Per Bag (in Rupees) during the Last Six Months*

Sl. No.	Name of City	As on						Variation in prices				
		1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	
		1.8.90	1.9.90	1.10.90	1.11.90	1.12.90	1.1.91					
1.	Delhi	92-95	92-95	92-95	95-97	95-97	95-97	95-97	+ 2			
2.	Calcutta	87-92	87-93	87-94	89-97	92-98	95-102	95-102	+ 10			
3.	Bombay	90-95	90-95	90-95	90-95	90-98	95-100	95-100	+ 5			
4.	Madras	85-89	85-89	85-89	85-89	87-92	87-92	87-92	+ 3			