

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3719
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) The basis of compilation and number of items covered in Wholesale Price Index (WPI);
- (b) The details of annual rate of inflation based on WPI has been increasing due to continuously rising of food articles during the last year; and
- (c) The steps taken by the Government to check the basis of compiling the WPI?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

- (a) The current series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is compiled with base year 1993-94. It is compiled based on 1918 quotations covering 435 items.
- (b) The annual rates of inflation based on monthly WPI for 'All Commodities' and 'Food Articles' during the last year were as follows:

Wt. (%) Rate of Inflation based on monthly WPI
Apr09 May09 Jun09 Jul09 Aug09 Sep09

All Commodities 100.00 1.31 1.38 -1.01 -0.54 -0.17 0.46
Food Articles 15.40 8.59 8.45 10.89 14.16 14.08 14.20

Oct09 Nov09 Dec09 Jan10 Feb10# Mar10#

1.46 5.55 8.10 9.44 9.89 9.90
12.99 18.66 20.04 18.41 17.79 16.65

Figures of February, 2010 and March, 2010 are provisional

- (c) The Government has initiated the process for revising the base year of WPI from 1993-94 to 2004-05 together with an enlargement of the commodity basket to better reflect the structural changes in the economy.