

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:782

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

VARIATION IN PRICES

Sharma Shri Madan Lal;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a wide variation in the prices of essential commodities in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with such States for ensuring uniformity in the rates of essential commodities in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the States thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a): No Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): It is not practically possible to bring uniformity in prices of essential commodities across different states on account of the transportation and handling costs and various taxes levied by different State Governments, as well as the conditions of demand and supply that vary from place to place. The State Governments by themselves can influence the prices by market intervention as is being done by the State Government of Delhi.