

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5295
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
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Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Consumer Price Index of food articles in respect of rural labourers has remained higher than the Wholesale Price Index in 2009;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in normal circumstances, Wholesale Price Index stays higher than the Consumer Price Index;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the reasons for higher margin in retail in comparison to wholesale in the country during the year 2009 and last few months of 2010?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF COAL AND STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

- (a)&(b) Monthly food inflation (on a point to point) based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) for rural labourers is generally higher than that based on Wholesale Price Index(WPI) of Food during 2009. Details for 2009 and also available months of 2010 are given in the statement at Annex I.
- (c)&(d) Inflation based on WPI is not generally higher than that based on CPI for rural labourers as depicted in the graph at Annex II.
- (e) Due to differences in the weights and composition of the commodities included in the CPI and WPI, these two indices when aggregated from the commodities' price indices, differ generally. Therefore, any inference in the movements in the retail and wholesale margins cannot be correctly assessed.