

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:29

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

PRICE RISE

Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Joshi Shri Kailash

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

- (a) whether the prices of essential commodities have been rising in the recent months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to contain food inflation/the prices of essential commodities?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.29 FOR 27.07.2010 REGARDING PRICE RISE.

(a) & (b): The retail and wholesale prices of essential commodities are showing a declining or steady trend in the case of wheat, atta, pulses such as gram dal, masoor dal, sugar, potato and onion over 6 months in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta and Chennai. However the prices of pulses such as urad dal, edible oil such as groundnut oil, vanaspati had shown a marginal increase over the same period. The details of retail and wholesale prices of essential commodities in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in Annexure I.

The reasons for the rise in prices of certain essential commodities are as follows:

- (i) The increase in prices of the rice and wheat can be attributed partly due to the increase in MSP. Drought in 2009-10 had affected the production of rice and pulses.
  - (ii) The less than estimated sugar production in the country during the last 2 sugar season .
  - (iii) Weather, apart from seasonal factors contributed to increase in prices of vegetables and fruits.
  - (iv) The increase in cost of milk production is largely due to increase in prices of cattle feed and fodder in last one year, and higher consumption of milk in rural areas due to increase in disposable income of rural population as a result of implementation of income and employment generation schemes.
- (c) : Government measures to moderate price rise in essential commodities are given in Annexure II. Government measures helped to moderate the price rise and currently the prices of most essential commodities are lower than the prices prevailing six months back.