

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:815

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

COMMITTEE ON PRICES

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Barq Shri Shafiqur Rahman;Chauhan Shri Dara Singh;De Dr. Ratna;Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao ;Hegde Shri Anant Kumar;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;J Helen Davidson;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Mani Shri Jose K.;Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Munda Shri Arjun ;Natarajan Shri P.R.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Panda Shri Prabodh;Rao Shri Kavuri Samba Siva;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash;Sharma Dr. Arvind Kumar;Sharma Shri Jagdish;Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda;Singh Shri Rakesh

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

- (a) whether the Government has constituted a high level committee to study price rise and devise ways to control the same;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the terms of reference of the said committee alongwith the manner in which the committee proposes to check the price rise;
- (c) the names of the essential commodities the prices of which were discussed during the conference on price rise;
- (d) whether the Government has also issued certain directives/instructions to the States to control prices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response 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) & (b): A Core Group on prices of essential commodities is proposed to be constituted.

(c): The price rise of key essential commodities, such as rice, wheat, pulses, vegetables and sugar, were discussed during the conference.

(d) & (e): During the periodic meetings with the State Governments and UT Administrations, they were requested to initiate steps to bring down the prices. It has also been reiterated by the Minister for Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution and the Prime Minister, that the State Governments have an important role in checking the rise in the prices of essential commodities through a set of administrative and regulatory measures. For instance, in Delhi, retail prices of essential commodities were reduced due to the market intervention by the State Government.