

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:28

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

PRICE RISE

Biju Shri P. K.;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the prices of essential commodities including foodgrains, vegetables, fruits, edible oils etc. continue to rise and the food inflation has also shown a rising trend during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the specific steps taken to control the same;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the impact of rising prices/inflation on the national economy and the common man; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof alongwith the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.28 FOR 02.08.2011 REGARDING PRICE RISE.

WPI based Food (primary + manufactured articles) inflation rate declined from 15.30% in June 2010 to 8.42% in June 2011. While inflation rate in food grains declined from 10.38% to 1.61%, that of vegetables declined from 12.24% to (-) 7.54% over the same period. Inflation rate of edible oils have increased from 0.52% to 15.28% during last one year, while that of fruits increased from 25.35 % to 26.43 % over the same period.

As India imports nearly 50% of her requirement of edible oils, the movement of international prices of edible oils influences the domestic prices as was evidenced during the last year. Prices of fruits are largely influenced by the seasonal factors. The steps taken by the Government are listed at Annexure I.

The Government is aware of the impact of rising prices on the vulnerable sections of the population. It has taken several steps to ameliorate their suffering as given in Annexure I. Consequently food inflation has declined from its peak level of 20.22 % in February 2010 to 8.42% in June 2011.