

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3010

ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012

PRICE RISE

Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

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

- (a) whether the price of essential commodities including pulses and edible oils have been increasing continuously;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any programme/proposal to procure these items through the Food Corporation of India and distribute the same through the Public Distribution System at subsidised rates; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): During the year 2011-12 (April to March), Wholesale Price Index (WPI) released by the Government, which is an indicator of general price trend in the country, has shown an increase in respect of essential commodities such as Milk, Edible Oils, Wheat, Rice, Gram, and Potato, but the increase has not been continuous as the indices declined during certain months.

(b) & (c): There is no programme/proposal under consideration to procure these items through the Food Corporation of India for distribution through the Public Distribution System. However, there is a scheme for distribution of subsidized imported pulses through State Governments/UTs with subsidy of Rs 10/- per kg for distribution under Public Distribution System, which has been extended till 30-6-2012. Also, the scheme for distribution of subsidized imported edible oils through States And Union Territories with subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg. for distribution to ration card holders, has been extended up to 30-9-2012.