

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5724
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
HIKE IN PDS PRICE
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to raise the prices of wheat and rice distributed through ration shops to bring down its Food Subsidy Bill (FSB);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Finance has pegged the FSB to a great extent putting a pressure on the Ministry to raise the prices;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the said restriction on subsidy on the proposed National Food Security Act which envisages foodgrains distribution at much lower prices; and
- (f) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken to tackle the situation?

Answer

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

- (a): No, Madam.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c): No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): The Government is committed to meet the Food Subsidy Bill towards the incremental cost that is likely to arise on implementation of the National Food Security Bill for providing foodgrains at the subsidized rate to the entire beneficiaries to be covered.