

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:964
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013
. PRICES OF CEMENT
Manian Shri O. S.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cement prices have increased substantially during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include cement under the essential commodity act; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)

(a) & (b): The control over price and distribution of cement has been removed since 1989. The industry was de-licensed in 1991 under the policy of economic liberalization. Cement has also been removed from the list of essential commodities. Thus, presently the prices of cement are governed by the market forces of demand and supply.

Prices of cement are collected under the clause of commercial secrecy and hence cannot be divulged. However, movements in Whole-sale Price Index (WPI) for cement under various 'heads' as per specifications are given. The data is as under:-

Types of Cement	Yearly Wholesale Price Index		
	Base Year 2004-05 = 100		
	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Cement & Lime	168.63	156.97	150.84
Grey Cement	168.76	157.02	150.87
White Cement	171.92	158.07	155.32
Slag Cement	166.42	157.48	151.03
Cement, Slate &	163.17	150.78	140.97
Graphite Products			
Other Cement Product	124.59	118.02	114.1

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise in view of the (c) above.