

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:529

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013

CEMENT PRICES

Mohan Shri P. C.;Paswan Shri Kamlesh

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

- (a) the details of the cement prices in the country during the last two years and the current year, month/State-wise;
- (b) the details of production and despatch of cement during the said period, month-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has observed that there has been a spurt in the cement prices since last year and has been affecting the construction sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken by the Government to assess the reasons for increase in the prices of cement and the remedial measures taken against price rise?

Answer

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

(a),(c) & (d): 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 at Annexure-I.

(b):The details of month-wise production and dispatch of cement during the last two years i.e., 2011-12, 2012-13 and the current year i.e., 2013-14 (upto October, 2013) is given at Annexure-II.