

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
RISE IN PRICES OF VEGETABLES AND FRUITS
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the prices of vegetables and fruits have registered a sharp increase in the country in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government envisages to develop a National Market for vegetables and fruits to ensure adequate supply and also check price rise of such items;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to check spiraling prices of vegetables and fruits in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 172 DUE FOR REPLY ON 01ST DECEMBER, 2009.

(a) to (e): It is true that prices of vegetables and fruits have increased in the recent past. A statement on monthly wholesale price index of vegetables and fruits is annexed. Prices of potatoes, onions and other vegetables have registered an increase on account of lower production due to deficiency in monsoon rainfall, damage due to heavy rains, damage due to blight disease etc. Government of India provides assistance under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh (TMNE) schemes for increasing production and setting up of terminal markets, wholesale markets and rural primary markets/ apni mandies to ensure adequate supply of fruits and vegetables to the consumers at reasonable prices and also to provide remunerative returns to the farmers.