

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 886
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2024

RISING INFLATION

886. SHRI CHANDRAKANT HANDORE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- a) whether Government has taken note that the country's retail inflation is increasing steeply;
- b) if so, the details of the inflation at the current rate;
- c) whether Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons for the increase in inflation;
- d) if so, the details thereof; and
- e) the steps taken or being taken by Government to bring down the level of inflation in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): The retail inflation rate based on Consumer Price Index-Combined (CPI-C) has moderated from 5.4 per cent in 2023-24 to 4.8 per cent in 2024-25 (April-October).

(c) & (d): Inflation rate is affected by several factors such as mismatch in demand and supply, seasonality, supply chain constraints, changes in international prices, *etc.* The recent food price pressures have been largely due to weather-affected supply disruptions in some vegetables and lower output of major pulses in the previous year.

(e) The Government has taken various measures to bring down the level of inflation. These steps, *inter-alia*, include strengthening the buffer stock of essential food items and periodic open market releases, subsidised retail sale of items like rice, wheat flour, pulses and onion in specified outlets, easing imports of the essential food items through rationalisation of duties, prevention of hoarding through imposition/revision and monitoring of stock limits, reduction of GST rates on various essential items from time to time and the targeted subsidy of LPG under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana largely protects the vulnerable sections from price pressures in food grains.
