

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6126
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.04.2017

PRICE RISE OF FOOD ITEMS

6126. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that prices of food items like pulses and onion go up suddenly due to collusion of the Government machinery and traders;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has framed a better scheme to check it;
- (c) whether there is any scheme for distribution of diesel to the farmers at lower price for agricultural purposes under the Public Distribution System; and
- (d) if so, whether any coordination has been established with the concerned Ministry?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) : Increase in prices of essential commodities including pulses and onion is because of various factors including shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing etc.

Government has taken various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food items which inter-alia, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import and export duty, Minimum Export Price, export restrictions etc. To regulate domestic availability and moderate prices; imposition of stock limits, and provision of higher Minimum Support Prices to incentivize farmers for increasing production. Besides, Government is also implementing Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) scheme for creating the buffer for effective market intervention to help moderate the volatility in prices of agri-horticultural commodities.

(c) : No Madam.

(d) : In view of (c) does not arise.
