GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1762 TO BE ANSWERED ON JULY 27, 2018

CPI BASED INFLATION

1762. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation accelerated at the fastest pace in the last few months;
- (b) if so, the factors responsible for the same;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to examine such factors responsible and take corrective steps to check the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) to (d) Inflation based on Consumer Price Index - Combined (CPI-C) during the last six months is presented in Table below:

Table: Inflation (in per cent) based on Consumer Price Index - Combined (CPI-C)						
	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18 (P)
CPI - C	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.0

Note: P - Provisional.

The headline inflation has remained within the inflation target fixed by the Government (based on the Consumer Price Index -Combined) of 4 per cent with tolerance level of +/- 2 per cent for the period beginning from August 5, 2016 to March 31, 2021.

Government monitors the price situation on a regular basis as price stability is high on its agenda. Government has taken a number of measures to control inflation especially food inflation which, inter alia, include regular review meetings on price and availability situation at the highest level including at the level of Committee of Secretaries, Inter-Ministerial Committee, Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee and other Departmental level review meetings, a dynamic buffer stock of pulses upto 20 lakh tonnes, appropriate market interventions under Price Stabilization Fund to control price volatility of agricultural commodities as and when required, and advisories to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding & black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 for commodities in short supply.