

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2038
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023

RISE IN INFLATION RATE

2038. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country's current indexed to inflation rate has increased to 331 in 2022-23 against 272 in 2017-18 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether cost inflation rate has increased over 121.70 per cent against 2017-18 and 138 per cent in comparison to 2014-15 with base year as 2001-02 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Government to reduce cost inflation rate and generate income capacity to bridge the inequality gap in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a): Consumer Price Index-Industrial Worker (CPI-IW) since 2014-15 with base year 2001=100 is given below

Year	CPI-IW (General Index) (Annual Average)
2014-15	251
2015-16	265
2016-17	276
2017-18	284
2018-19	300
2019-20	322
2020-21	333
2021-22	357
2022-23 (April-January)	377

Source: Labour Bureau

Note: Linking factor of 2.88 is used to convert index numbers of 2021-22 and 2022-23(April-January) from base year 2016=100 to base year 2001=100.

(b): In 2022-23(April-January), CPI-IW index has increased over 32.6 per cent against 2017-18 and 50.0 per cent in comparison to 2014-15 with base year as 2001.

(c): The price situation of essential commodities is monitored by the Government on a regular basis and corrective action is taken from time to time. Several supply-side measures have been taken by the Government to address inflation and to ensure that the poor do not have to bear the extra financial burden. These steps, *inter alia*, include reduction in excise duty on petrol and diesel, maintenance of buffer stock for onion and pulses, imposition of stock limits on edible oils and oil seeds, monitoring of stocks declared by entities to prevent hoarding and also requisite changes in trade policy instruments.

In addition, measures especially directed towards the vulnerable section include the Targeted Public Distribution System, under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) which is the largest public food-security program in the world covering around 80 crore people in the country. This benefit is being provided through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana. Also, the Government of India is encouraging various projects involving substantial investment on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission for generating income capacity to bridge the inequality gap in the country.
