

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1838
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

FOOD INFLATION

1838. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of unexpected food inflations;
- (b) if so, the proactive steps taken by the Government to control the food inflations;
- (c) whether the Government has announced any policy to lower the food price inflation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) : The Department of Consumer Affairs monitors the daily retail and wholesale prices of 22 essential food commodities submitted by the 184 price monitoring centres that have been set up with Central assistance by State Governments and UT Administrations across the country. Taking into account price trends, the Government takes various measures from time to time to augment domestic availability and stabilize prices of essential food commodities and make them accessible to all the consumers across India at affordable prices. These steps, *inter alia*, include releases from the buffer to cool down prices, imposition of stock limits, monitoring of stocks declared by entities to prevent hoarding as also requisite changes in trade policy instruments like rationalization of import duty, changes in import quota, restrictions on exports of the commodity etc.

Buffer stocks of pulses and onion are maintained for price stabilization. Pulses from the buffer are released in the market for cooling down prices and also supplied on ongoing basis to the States/UTs for distribution under welfare and nutrition schemes. A buffer stock of onion are built in by procuring stock from rabi harvest. The stocks from the buffer are released in a targeted and calibrated manner during the lean season (Aug - Dec) to contain price rise.
