PRICE RISE OF ESSENTIAL ITEMS .

513   Shri   Ashk Ali Tak

Will the Minister of COALCOALCOALCOALCOALCONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government is aware that prices of essential items including foodgrains,   vegetables and spices are increasing continuously and are beyond the reach of Aam Aadami;

(b) if so, the details of increase during last three months till date, month-wise and item- wise;

(c) the details of the steps taken/fresh steps proposed to be taken to curb the menace of   price-rise on poor people; and

(d) by when this trend of rising prices is expected to come down?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(Prof. K.V. Thomas)

(a) & (b): The retail prices of rice, wheat, pulses such as tur dal, urad dal, masoor dal, moong dal, vegetables such as potato are showing steady to declining trend while the prices of gram dal, sugar and onion have marginally increased as observed in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai over a period of three months. The prices of spices are not monitored by the Government.
The details of the retail prices of essential commodities in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai during last three months till date, month-wise and item-wise are given in Annexure I.

(c) : The details of the steps taken/fresh steps proposed to be taken to curb the menace of price-rise on poor people is given in Annexure II.

(d) : Price rise is affected by a number of factors such as increase in income and improvement in living standards, productivity, increase in MSP, hardening of international prices, weather and seasonal factors. Market expectations and sentiments also have an impact on the prices. The general expectation is that a higher kharif production will further soften domestic prices.