GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO07.03.2011

ANSWERED ON

INCREASE IN FOODGRAIN PRICES.

1137

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the prices of foodgrains have increased excessively during the last year;
- (b) if so, the details of its increase during last three years; and
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to control the prices of foodgrains?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

- (a) & (b): The retail prices of foodgrains in the case of pulses such as tur dal, moong dal, masoor dal, have declined; however, that of rice, wheat, pulses such as gram dal and urad dal, increased over the last one year as indicated by the trends in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. The details of the retail prices of foodgrains over the last three years in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai along with their percentage variation is given in (Annexure I).
- The increase in prices of the rice and wheat can be attributed partly due to the increase in MSP. The rise in prices of gram dal and urad dal has been due to the hardening of international prices and demand supply mismatch due to which import is resorted to.
- (c) : The steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise in essential commodities such as foodgrains are given in Annexure II.