

Prices of essential commodities

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 335
ANSWERED ON 26.11.2012**

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SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to satate :-

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to monitor the prices of all essential commodities and also to regulate them;
- (b) if so, what action plan has been prepared for the same; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government against persons who are violating provisions of Essential Commodities Act and to maintain supplies of essential commodities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): There is a mechanism in place to monitor the prices of essential commodities. Government closely monitors the wholesale/retail prices of select essential commodities from select centres across the country. The prevailing price situation as well as other factors which have impact on prices, both in domestic and international markets are studied and brought to the notice of high level committees, such as Committee of Secretaries (COS), Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP) through agenda notes prepared for their meetings, for appropriate action at the policy level.

(c) : Steps taken by the Government against persons who are violating provisions of Essential Commodities Act and to maintain supplies of essential commodities are enclosed at Annexure-I
