

(c) and (d) There is no one to one correspondence between the rate of inflation and rate of growth in India. As per the ADB Report, the rate of growth and the WPI based average annual inflation rate for the last five year for India are as follows:

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
GDP Growth (%)	3.8	8.5	7.5	9.0	9.2
Inflation (%)	3.4	5.4	6.4	4.4	5.5

Increase in prices of cement

†4335. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:
SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that prices of cement are constantly rising in all the parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any stringent steps to control them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Sir, the WPI based indices and rate of inflation for cement since January 2007 is as below:

Period	WPI of Cement 1993-94—100	Inflation (%)
1	2	3
6 Jan. 07	198.6	19.42
13 Jan. 07	198.3	17.90
20 Jan. 07	198.3	17.90
27 Jan. 07	198.3	16.72
3 Feb. 07	199.4	16.40
10 Feb. 07	200.6	16.49
17 Feb. 07	200.6	14.50

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
24 Feb. 07	201.5	13.46
3 Mar. 07	210.4	17.28
10 Mar. 07	210.4	16.18
17 Mar. 07	211.7	16.90
24 Mar. 07	211.7	14.12
31 Mar. 07	210.4	11.56
7 Apr. 07	210.4	11.21
14 Apr. 07	211.6	10.21
21 Apr. 07	211.5	9.87
28 Apr. 07	211.5	9.30

(b) and (c) To moderate the cement prices, while customs duties have been brought down to zero, excise duties have been rationalized. The current rates of excise duty on cement (other than white cement) cleared in packaged form are:

- (i) Up to Rs. 190 per bag of 50 kgs Rs. 350 per tonne
- (ii) above Rs. 190 and up to Rs. 250 12 per cent of the declared
per bag of 50 kgs retail price
- (iii) Above Rs. 250 per bag of 50 kgs Rs. 600 per tonne.

Migration of officials of IRS

4336. SHRI AJAY MAROO:

SHRI DEVDAS APTE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officers of Indian Revenue Services are taking voluntary retirement to join private sector services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many such officers have been granted retirement till date and how many are waiting till date;

(d) what are the reasons behind these retirements; and

(e) what steps Government are taking to stop this migration?