

Rise in wholesale price index

*57. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-
PATRO: SHRI JAGJIT SINGH
ANAND: SHRI INDRA DEEP
SINHA: SHRI SANAT KUMAR
RAHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether the wholesale price index of essential commodities has shown an abnormal increase during the last few months;

(b) if so, what is the month-wise break-up of the price-index so far during the year 1977 as compared to that for the year 1975 and 1976; and

(c) what factors are responsible for this rise in the wholesale price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOEL): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The wholesale price index has not shown any abnormal increase during the last few months. On point to point comparison, the rate of inflation has come down from 12.5 per cent in March, 1977 to 4.2 per cent in October 1977. Between April—October, 1977, the wholesale price index has gone up by 1.3 per cent as compared to 9.3 per cent in the corresponding period last year. The wholesale price index has been showing a declining trend during the past six weeks ending October 29, 1977. During this period the wholesale price index has gone down by 2.5 per cent.

(b) The statement is given at Annex.

(c) There are several factors responsible for rise in the wholesale price index. Among them the most important has been the increase of 18 per cent in money supply in 1976-77 as against an estimated increase of about 2 per cent, in the national income. While this

year the rate of increase in money supply is being kept at lower levels, the lagged impact of the increase in money supply in the earlier year continues to be felt even now. There have been significant shortfalls in the production of some essential commodities in 1976-77, particularly in respect of pulses, edible oilseeds and raw cotton. Shortage of power has also affected production of a few Commodities in general.

ANNEXURE**Monthly movement of all-commodities
wholesale price index**

(Base : 1970-71=100)

	1975	1976	1977
January . . .	176.9	166.4	178.8
February . . .	176.0	164.8	182.7
March . . .	174.6	162.6	182.9
April . . .	175.2	166.2	184.1
May . . .	178.2	169.3	187.4
June . . .	177.8	171.5	187.8
July . . .	176.0	177.6	188.7
August . . .	177.6	178.5	188.1
September . . .	177.5	179.5	188.1
October . . .	177.2	177.7	185.2
November . . .	173.5	176.8	
December . . .	169.1	177.3	

**Central Aid for Tourist Centres in
Andhra Pradesh**

*58. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:
SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAM-
NAD: SHRI R. NARASIMHA
REDDY: SHRI G. A.
LAKSHMANAN: SHRI
BRAHMANANDA PANDA;

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any requests from the Andhra Pradesh Government for Central aid for the development of tourist centres at Srisailem, Hydera-

bad, Bheemilipatnam and Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, what is Central Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) In response to the suggestion made to all the State Governments, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a perspective plan for tourism development in the State. This plan includes tourism schemes at Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam and the development of facilities along the Vizag-Bheemunipatnam beach road. A motel project is also proposed at Kurnool from where Srisailem could be visited.

(b) The perspective plan received from the State Government is under examination.

Indian style Restaurants in Berlin, Moscow and Sofia

*59. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT;
SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIB-
ULLAH; SHRI PRAKASH
MEHROTRA: SHRI GURUDEV
GUPTA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 33 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th June, 1977 and state:

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation has entered into agreements for setting up and running Indian-style restaurants in Berlin, Moscow and Sofia; and

(b) if so, what are the main terms of the agreements?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No Sir, not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Aid for Development of Tourist Centres in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu

*60. SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAM-NAD:
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: SHRI R.
NARASIMHA REDDY; SHRI G.
LAKSHMANAN: SHRI
BRAHMANANDA PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) the names of tourist centres in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu for which Central aid has been sanctioned this year; and

(b) what is the amount of Central aid in each case?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No sanction has been issued during the year 1977-78 for tourism schemes in the 3 States.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of Boeing aircraft for Air India

42. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the cost of two Boeing 747 aircraft for which orders have already been placed by the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): The cost of the two Boeing 747 aircraft to Air India is US \$ 75.227 million.

Inconvenience caused to Rex Harrison by Customs Authorities at Santa Cruz Airport

43. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent news report to the effect that during his recent