

(a) whether it is a fact that merger of 50 per cent Dearness Allowance (DA) with pay and pension has become overdue;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Sixth Central Pay Commission has recommended not to merge dearness allowance with basic pay at any stage. Government has accepted this recommendation *vide* Government of India Resolution dated 29.08.2008.

Report of Ashok Chawla Commission

1592. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received the report of Ashok Chawla Committee on Allocation of natural resources in May, 2011;

(b) if so, whether report had been accepted by Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by the Minister;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if the report, partially or wholly accepted by Government, whether details are placed in the public domain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Ashok Chawla Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources (CANR) submitted its Report on 31st May, 2011 giving 81 recommendations covering eight natural resources *viz.* mineral, coal, petroleum, natural gas, spectrum, land, water and forests under the following administrative Ministries *viz.* Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Ministry of Communications and IT, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Water Resources. The Group of Ministers has already accepted 69 of these 81

recommendations and further action on all these recommendations are to be pursued by individual Ministries in a timely manner. A Monitoring Mechanism has also been set up under the Cabinet Secretary to monitor the implementation of the accepted recommendations. The report of the CANR has not been placed in the public domain.

Rise in inflation

†1593. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been rise in inflation in the last few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by the Central Government to check the inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Inflation measured in terms of Wholesale and Consumer Price Indices (WPI and CPI) for all commodities in the last six months are given below in Table 1.

Table 1: Inflation based on WPI and CPI (%)

	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13
WPI Headline	8.01	8.07	7.32	7.24	7.18P	6.62P
CPI-IW (All India)	10.31	9.14	9.60	9.55	11.17	11.62
CPI-NS (All India)	10.03	9.73	9.75	9.90	10.56	10.79P

P: Provisional

CPI-IW: Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers.

CPI-NS: Consumer Price Index for New Series.

Source: Office of the Economic Adviser for WPI, Labour Bureau for CPI-IW and CSO for CPI-NS.

While headline inflation measured in terms of WPI has moderated, inflation based on consumer price indices has witnessed an increase in recent months. Increase in CPI inflation has largely been due to increase in prices of food articles.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.