

**Monitoring mechanism for controlling milk prices**

1011. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian farmers and milk producers are presently getting around ₹16 to ₹19 per litre as against the earlier ₹26 to ₹28 from co-operatives and Dairy industry despite selling milk in open market to the consumers more than ₹40 per litre;

(b) whether Government has any monitoring mechanism for controlling milk prices for consumers and also for purchase rate of milk from farmers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the milk prices for consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yearly Wholesale Price Index (base year 2004-05=100) of milk was 242.63 during 2014-15 and 250.14 during 2015-16 (April to January 2016) respectively [Source: Office of Economic Advisor, M/o Commerce & Industries]. As per National Dairy Development Board, farmers and milk producers from cooperatives are getting ₹23.30 per litre and ₹31.63 per litre for cow and buffalo milk, respectively during January 2016 as against ₹23.30 per litre and ₹31.58 per litre for cow and buffalo milk, respectively during January 2015.

All India average retail price of milk in February 2016 was ₹39.69 per litre. [Source: Prime Monitoring Cell, Department of Consumer Affairs].

(b) Department of Consumer Affairs monitors the wholesale & retail prices of milk including other essential commodities. The Central Government does not control milk prices for consumer and also for purchase rate of milk for farmers.

(c) Central Government does not regulate price of milk. This Department is implementing following schemes to enhance milk production in the country which also contributes in stabilizing prices of milk.-

- i. National Dairy Plan (Phase-I)
- ii. National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- iii. Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme
- iv. Livestock Health and Disease Control
- v. National Livestock Mission