

Hike In the Prices of Rice

175. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rise in the prices of all varieties of rice supplied through the Public Distribution System and the reasons for the price hike; and

(b) the likely impact of the price rise on the consumer, particularly in the rural areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) On account of the increase in the support prices of paddy for the 1988-89 kharif season, the Government of India have increased the issue prices of rice supplied from the Central Pool to the State Governments for their public distribution systems. The percentage of this rise is as under:

<i>Variety of rice</i>	<i>Percentage of rice</i>
Common	2.09
Fine	15.15
Superfine	16.49

(b) The impact of the price rise on the consumer will depend on the end prices fixed by the State Governments. The issue prices of the Central Government carry a substantial subsidy.

Decline In Birth Rate

176. SHRI H. B. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the birth rate in India is declining due to massive family planning campaign which has been vigorously pursued over the last several years; and

(b) if so, the States where the birth rate is declining and since when along with the categorisation of age, and class in society so far the question of education and caste is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Birth Rate in India is estimated to have declined from 41.2 in 1961-71 (census estimates) to 32.0 per thousand population in 1987 (Sample Registration System provisional estimates).

(b) As per the Sample Registration System estimates for the periods 1975-77, 1980-82, 1985-87 (provisional), the major States which show a declining trend in birth rate during the above period are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. However, birth rates for States are not estimated according to the categories indicated in the question.

Supply of Rice, Wheat, Sugar & Palmolein to Kerala

177. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state: