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सचिव

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सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय
उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110001

Government of India
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
Department of Consumer Affairs
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI - 110001

D.O.No.S-2/1/2015-ECR&E

June 10, 2015

Dear Sri Krishna Rao,

As you are aware, the period July to November each year poses certain challenges of availability as well as prices of essential commodities, particularly vegetables and pulses. Prices of these commodities generally show an upward trend increasing from July, reaching a peak in November, before they start moderating with the arrival of Kharif produce in the markets. This period also coincides with the rise in demand owing to important festivals. Perishable commodities are price sensitive owing to their limited shelf life. Hoarding, cartelisation, blackmarketing by middlemen and traders accentuate the problem.

2. Needless to mention, immediate necessary action is to be taken to tackle the problem of increase in food prices as may be necessary in your State, especially in the ensuing six months July-December, 2015. You may activate your Price Monitoring Cell to monitor the prices of essential commodities, both wholesale prices as well as retail prices obtained in various parts of your State. Based on need and requirement, specific market interventions may be made. You may buy products/produce in bulk to meet the demand during the festival season and sell them through Civil Supplies Corporation/Cooperative Societies outlets, especially economically weaker sections, at reasonable prices.

3. Senior officers like District Collectors/Magistrates in the States may be instructed to monitor the availability and prices of essential commodities. Stock limits, especially for pulses, may be imposed and effective action be taken against hoarders and blackmarketers. Action should be swift and food grains seized should be distributed in retail through outlets of Food & Civil Supplies Corporation.

4. It is important that the Centre and States should work in close cooperation for effective control of any price rise. I request you to bestow your personal attention on this important issue. I shall be glad to receive information on actions taken in your State to effectively tackle the problem of price rise.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(C.VISWANATH)

Chief Secretary of all States/UTs

