

## Promises and Betrayals of BJP

### Defeat BJP led NDA – Vote for Left, Democratic and Secular parties

Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party have promised the Indian Voters on some important and key issues During the 2014 and 2019 Parliament elections. They are neither individual promises nor oral. They were promised in their Election Manifestos. But in the election campaign Narendra Modi and others went far ahead with bigger assurances and created a hype. It is the bounded responsibility of any Political Party to implement the promises made to the people in their Election Manifestos after coming to power. It is the right of the people to question that party about the implementation of the promises they made in the previous Election Manifestos. With this view let us examine the price rise and employment issues which have attained the prime importance in the 2024 Parliament Elections. The following were the written promises in the BJP 2014 Election Manifest on price rise and employment (page-4).

**On Price rise: “Runaway food inflation has crippled household budgets and contributed to the overall inflationary trend under the Congress-led UPA's watch. Even worse, the food and nutritional security of millions is threatened. However, the Congress-led UPA government has remained insensitive and indifferent to the plight of the people; tying itself into knots with short-term, mis-directed steps. The committee of Chief Ministers, headed by Shri Narendra Modi, has already submitted a report on food inflation in 2011. The report was unfortunately not acted upon by the Congress-led UPA Government. The BJP-led NDA Government's record of holding the prices is a demonstration of our commitment to break the vicious cycle of high inflation and high interest rates. Our immediate task will be to rein in inflation by several steps, such as: put in place strict measures and special Courts to stop hoarding and black marketing. setting up a Price Stabilisation Fund”.**

It is most important to note that the Price Raise issue did not take place in the BJP's 2019 Election Manifesto. Let us examine what is the experience in the last 10 years. According to the latest report of “Income and Wealth Inequality in India 1922-2023”, the inflation in the year 2014 was 139.9 and rose to 205.3 in 2022 (the latest data is not available). The increase in the last 9 years is 65.4%. The

prices of some food items and the LPG cylinder are given in the table below for reference.

Table:

Product	₹/Qty	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Percentage of increase
Wheat	₹/kg	21.64	22.76	23.57	23.91	24.13	26.82	28.36	27.28	29.88	32.47	50.04
Arhar Dal	₹/kg	71.79	106.83	132.25	84.27	71.43	81.58	95.13	105.6	106.37	123.26	71.69
Chana Dal	₹/kg	47.26	58.62	89.37	87.55	66.72	66	69.15	75.2	73.6	76.69	62.27
Urad	₹/kg	71.55	102.49	137.06	92.6	70.74	77.15	101.76	108.11	106.29	112.52	57.3
Jowar	₹/kg	15.5	15.9	16.5	17.25	24.5	25.7	26.4	27.58	29.9	32.25	108.06
Onion	₹/kg	22.94	31.7	16.92	22.27	23.65	32.49	36.16	32.58	28.17	31.65	37.96
Potato	₹/kg	22.68	16.16	19.05	14.92	19.02	18.78	31.24	21.25	24.67	22.5	-0.79
Tomato	₹/kg	25.43	26.11	25.74	31.83	21.79	30.02	33.62	31.32	36.36	42.36	66.57
Milk	₹/lit	36.84	39.09	39.94	41.56	42.31	43.75	46.51	48.98	52.37	57.36	55.7
Egg	₹/Each	4	3.5	4.5	5	4.8	4.5	5.4	5.2	5.6	5	25
Mutton	₹/kg	350	375	400	450	475	500	550	600	800	820	134.28
Chicken	₹/kg	125	140	130	150	170	150	140	170	250	170	36
Palm Oil	₹/lit	69.66	65.67	68.32	70.38	76.67	76.29	92.13	126.95	136.6	110.62	58.79
Ground nut oil	₹/lit	120.58	121.37	130.71	131.06	125.79	129.95	146.95	174.93	188.67	191.08	58.46
Vanaspati	₹/kg	76.07	74.69	74.24	77.71	80.32	80.5	92.24	129.15	150.95	131.14	72.39
Sunflower oil	₹/lit	93.32	94.31	95.15	93.09	96.29	99.82	114.17	162.76	177.98	152.95	63.89
Soya Oil	₹/lit	84.25	83.33	82.48	85.22	89.25	92.3	102.67	144.67	158.78	138.27	64.11
Musterd oil	₹/lit	97.65	103.85	109.43	106.99	106.15	109.81	123.33	167.56	183.24	154.68	58.4
Loose Tea	₹/kg	205.65	205.83	199.19	202.71	209.19	212.47	224.6	278.69	283.21	276.7	35.06
Gur	₹/kg	40.66	40.35	44.37	44.69	43.11	44.25	47.88	47.57	49.13	50.67	24.61
Sugar	₹/kg	35.59	31.34	38.4	42.62	38.92	38.81	39.85	40.43	41.76	42.93	20.62
Salt	₹/kg	14.51	14.83	14.99	15.11	15.22	15.39	16.27	17.78	20.01	22.04	51.89
Rice	₹/kg	28.01	27.51	27.29	29.22	30.05	31.66	34.25	36.12	36.82	40.58	44.87
Aata	₹/kg	23.63	24.69	24.97	26.24	26.44	28.33	30.8	30.77	34.05	37.63	59.24
LPG	₹/Each	410	610	513.5	735.5	689	701.5	805.5	819	899	1103-(803)	169.02

Source: Department of Consumer Affairs and Index Mundi Website. The prices of the above commodities are higher in the retail market than the prices given in the Table.

Note: The Government has reduced the LPG Cylinder rate to a tune of Rs.300/- in the month of February 2024 keeping in view of the 18th parliament elections to attract the women voters.

It is clear from the above table and the information provided in the Income and Wealth Inequality in India 1922-2023 report that the inflation neither come down nor stable but has gone up so high and the prices have skyrocketed. The ruling dispensation has utterly failed to implement the promises made in their Manifesto and deceived the people of India. Some Institutions have conducted surveys in Delhi recently. The report of the survey was published in the Hindu daily newspaper. According to one survey 85% of the people participated in the survey have said that the cost of living has gone so high and unable to manage. Another survey was conducted with different communities and in different locations. The details are as follows. **On price rise the people said that the prices have gone up and unable to manage. On Jobs the people said that it**

has become difficult to get a job. On Ache Din people said that Ache Din has not come.

Note: This report is published in Hindu on 11-04-2024.

<b>Locations &amp; Communities</b>	<b>Response on Price rise</b>	<b>Response on Jobs</b>	<b>Response on Ache Din</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>poor</b>	<b>76</b>		<b>42</b>
<b>Lower</b>	<b>70</b>		<b>41</b>
<b>Middle</b>	<b>66</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Upper</b>	<b>68</b>		<b>37</b>
<b>Village</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Town</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Cities</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Hindu Upper Caste</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>57</b>	
<b>Hindu OBC</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	
<b>Hindu SCs</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>63</b>	
<b>Hindu STs</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>59</b>	
<b>Muslims</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>67</b>	
<b>Others</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>62</b>	

The Godi media and the Hindu Fundamentals are propagating that the people are very much satisfied with the policies of the Modi led Government. But the survey report blasted that propaganda and brought the truth to the light. This proves that irrespective of caste, community and locations, majority of the people participated in survey are suffering a lot.

In addition to the price rise and Unemployment, the cost of medicines, health care, education, house rents electricity bills, transport charges etc have also gone up so high. But the earnings have not increased correspondingly, rather declined in some cases.

**On employment:** The BJP in its 2014 Election Manifesto (page number 4 & 5 under the heading Employment and Entrepreneurship) stated that

**“The country has been dragged through 10 years of Jobless Growth by the Congress-led UPAGovernment. Under the broader economic revival, BJP will accord high priority to job creation and opportunities for entrepreneurship.**

**We will:**

- 1. Strategically develop high impact domains like Labour-intensive manufacturing (viz. textile, footwear, electronics assembly, etc.) and Tourism.**
- 2. Strengthen the traditional employment bases of agriculture and allied industries, and retail -through modernization as well as stronger credit and market linkages.**
- 3. Harness the opportunities provided by the upgradation of infrastructure and housing, for its jobgenerating potential.**
- 4. Encourage and empower our youth for self-employment - incubating entrepreneurship as well as facilitating credit.**
- 5. Address the employability issue by initiating a multi-skills development programme in mission mode. Focus will be on job creation and entrepreneurship, in both rural and urban areas.**
- 6. Transform our Employment Exchanges into Career Centres - connecting our youth with job opportunities in a transparent and effective manner through the use of technology; as well as providing counselling and training.**

**What is the reality?** The unemployment has touched the ever-peak levels. The ILO (International Labour Organization and the Institute for Human Development recently released the report titled “India Employment Report 2024”. The report said “in 2022, youth unemployment rate in India was at 23.22%, higher than its neighbours Pakistan (11.3%), Bangladesh (12.9%), and Bhutan (14.4%), showed World Bank data. According to the report, in the same year, the unemployment rate in China stood at 13.2%, Syria 22.1%, Indonesia 13%, Malaysia 11.7%, Vietnam 7.4%, South Korea 6.9% and Singapore 6.1%. The data has been sourced from the International Labour Organization. The youth unemployment rate refers to those in the workforce who are aged 15 to 24 years and without a job, but actively seeking one”. The Hindu survey report also confirms the deteriorated situation

Examples: One Youth by name Mr. Ankit Kumar who has completed his graduation in Nalanda district of Bihar and came down to Delhi with family consisting 5 members in the year 2009 in search of some sort of employment. He says that then his mother, father and himself were working in different small factories and were earning Rs 5800/ per month. With that amount, they were able to lead their family. Now those factories have been closed down and he alone is the earning member getting Rs.10,000 per month. He says that it has become highly difficult to maintain the family with Rs.10,000/.

Another example is that one widow by name Seema from Azamgadh district of Uttar Pradesh with 4 family members came down to Delhi and working as maid. She says that ten years back her monthly ration bill was Rs.1500/ per month. Now it has gone up to 3,500 and the earning fell very much short of and suffering a lot. Innumerable examples of such families are there in the country.

At this juncture, the 18<sup>th</sup> Parliament elections are going to take place from 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to 01<sup>st</sup> of June 2024 in different states in 7 phases. It is the time to defeat the BJP which has deceived and heavily burdened the people of India during the last 10 years of rule. Vote for the Left, Democratic and Secular parties and oust the BJP led NDA from power.