

**Release of monthly inflation data
is just white-wash by Congress: Ram Naik**

Mumbai, Wednesday: "The decision of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) to release the data on inflation on monthly basis and also shifting the base year to 2004-2004 is just a white-wash to hide the alarming increasing prices", criticized Shri ram Naik, BJP leader & former Petroleum Minister in a press statement issued today in Mumbai. He was commenting on the government's decision to change the frequency and also the base year of the Wholesale Price Index.

"The prices of daily necessities have reached an alarming height. Dr. Manmohan Singh's government wants to show reduction in prices by changing the computation base year from 1993-1994 to 2004-2005. This will certainly show the reduction in increasing prices only on paper. The publication of Wholesale Price Index every week used to serve as a red signal on the state of economy. Changing the periodicity from every week to once in a month is also another way of hoodwinking the common-man", commented Shri Naik.

"The statistical jugglery can hardly hide the failure of the government to control the prices. Dr Manmohan Singh, the Economist should know that such gimmick can hardly conceal the sufferings of the common-man", said Shri Ram Naik at the end.

(Office Secretary)