

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**25 February 2010, New Delhi**

**THE ECONOMIC SURVEY PAINTS A BLEAK PICTURE**

The Economic Survey 2009-10 clearly shows the bleak picture of Indian economy. It is now officially acknowledged that the wrong food management policies are the reason for spiralling price rise of essential commodities.

The Survey pointed out that there is a huge burden of food subsidy, which puts a lot of stress on the fiscal system. But the fact is that the total food subsidy currently provided by the Government is less than 1% of the country's GDP. In 2009-10, the food subsidy given by the government was Rs. 52,490 crore, which is less than a fifth of the tax exemptions given to the corporates, that is more than Rs. 4 lakh crore.

The Government should answer to the nation how the prices are soaring when a record procurement of wheat and rice helped at build up buffer stock and strategic reserve as narrated in Economic Survey 2009-10.



**(G. Devarajan)**  
Secretary