

## **Basic living expenses double since 2004 in India: report**

NEW DELHI, May 16 (Xinhua) -- Basic living expenses have doubled from 2004 to 2012 in India due to inflation of food commodities, reported local daily The Times of India on Wednesday.

While government data on wholesale price index shows that there has been a 63 percent increase in the price of all commodities between April 2004 and April 2012, when it comes to food products, the index has more than doubled from 98 to 206, said the report.

Of the 60-odd items analyzed by the newspaper, there is just one case -- ginger -- where the price has decreased, as in all other cases, there has been an increase.

Within these commodities, there are only eight products -- guava, coconut, garlic, papaya, onions, turmeric, tea and chicken - - where the rise in prices is less than 63 percent, said the report.

The Indian inflation rate stands above 7 percent in April, dampening government efforts to stimulate growth through lower interest rates.