

As Bolivia's big state economic model slowly implodes, fear of 'total crisis'

LA PAZ, Dec 16 (Reuters) - Housewife Yola Chura worried about high food prices while shopping at a market in Bolivia's highland city of El Alto, where she and many others are struggling with rising prices, stagnant wages and a scarcity of dollars that has put the long-stable Andean economy on edge.

"We are in a total crisis. Salaries don't increase and so everything is expensive," Chura told Reuters at the market in the city that perches in the mountains above Bolivia's political capital La Paz. "With the excuse that there's no diesel or gasoline, the price of everything has gone up."

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