

August, 1980 onwards. A close watch is being kept on the situation on a day-to-day basis.

**Rise in the Wholesale Price Index of Essential Commodities**

646 SHRIMATI GEETA  
MUKHERJEE:

**SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:**

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale price index of the essential commodities has continued its rising trend;

(b) if so, the group-wise details of the per cent increase in the price index at the end of each of the weeks since June this year; and

(c) the facts causing such increase in the prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY): (a) During the past five months there has been a mixed trend in the wholesale price indices of essential commodities in as much as indices of some essential commodities have gone up, some have remained steady and that of some have declined.

(b) The weekly percentage variation in the wholesale price indices of 11 groups of commodities is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1378/80.*]

(c) Apart from the general inflationary situation, the rise in prices of some essential commodities, widespread to decline in production of some essential commodities, widespread drought in 1979, increase in the prices of petro-products, increase in support/support/procurement prices, shortfall in power supply, transport bottleneck and the seasonality factor.

**Quantity of Sugar Exported during 1980**

647. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quantity of sugar has been exported during 1980; and

(b) if so, the countries to which sugar was exported and the price at which it was exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The countrywise exports of Sugar during 1980 and the price at which it was exported is as under:—

Country	QTY (MT)	Price ₹	Stg	PMT
1. U.K.	24,440	211.146	CIFFD	U.K. Port
2. Sri Lanka	20	357.50	FOB.	
3. Nepal	1,500	380.50	ex-STC	go-down.
4. Sudan	11,550	230.20	FOBS	
5. Egypt	11,550	230.20	FOBS	
6. DPRK	5,250	233.00	FOBS	
7. Bangladesh	10,000	235.00	FOBS.	

**Involvement of Oriental Bank of Commerce in Foreign Exchange of Faked Sales and Purchases**

648. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oriental Bank of Commerce has been involved, in foreign exchange racket of faked sales and purchases by M/s. Thapers, New Delhi;