

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:157
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the retail consumer prices of the wheat flour and other essential commodities are increasing in the open market day by day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last twelve months, item-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for increasing the prices of essential commodities specially the wheat and the steps taken by the Government to check such price rise ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRIV. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) & (b): The retail prices of most of the essential commodities including wheat flour remained at reasonable levels during the last one year. A statement showing the month-end retail prices of atta and other 12 essential commodities at Delhi for the period March, 1999 to February, 2000 is given in Annexure.

(c) : Apart from certain long term measures to increase production for stabilization of offices of essential commodities imports of items which are in short supply, like pulses have been placed under OGL at zero per cent import duty. One lakh tonnes of different varieties of pulses have been imported on Government account to augment their availability in the country. Export of onion has been placed under quantitative restriction. Some of the essential commodities like rice, wheat, palmolein and kerosene are also supplied through the outlets of public distribution system at below market prices. Stringent actions are being taken against hoarders, black marketeers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act by the State/UT Governments.

Statement referred to para (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Qustion No.157 for answer on 24.2.2000

Month end retail prices of selected essential commodities at Delhi for the period March,1999 to February,2000

(Rs. Per kg)

	Atta	Wheat	Rice	Gram	Arhar	Sugar	Groun-	Must-	Vanas	Tea	Potato	Onion	Salt (P)
	dnut	ard	pati										
	Oil	Oil											
March,99	99.00	8.00	11.00	19.00	29.00	16.00	77.00	61.00	45.00	110.00	4.00	8.00	6.00
April,99	8.00	7.00	12.00	18.00	31.00	16.00	77.00	55.00	44.00	110.00	5.00	8.00	6.00
May, 99	8.00	7.00	12.00	19.00	36.00	17.00	77.00	49.00	44.00	115.00	6.00	8.00	6.00
June,99	8.50	7.50	13.00	19.00	34.00	17.00	77.00	45.00	42.00	115.00	9.00	10.00	6.00
July,99	8.50	7.50	13.00	20.00	34.00	17.00	70.00	45.00	37.00	115.00	9.00	11.00	6.00
Augt,99	8.50	7.50	13.00	18.00	33.00	17.00	68.00	53.00	42.00	115.00	9.00	10.00	6.00
Sept.,99	8.50	8.00	12.00	20.00	34.00	17.00	71.00	51.00	40.00	115.00	9.00	11.00	6.00
Oct.,99	9.00	8.00	13.00	20.00	34.00	17.00	73.00	51.00	40.00	115.00	12.00	13.00	6.00
Nov.,99	9.00	8.00	13.00	20.00	34.00	17.00	73.00	49.00	38.00	115.00	6.00	10.00	6.00
Dec.,99	9.00	8.00	13.00	20.00	32.00	17.00	68.00	48.00	35.00	115.00	4.00	7.00	6.00
Jan.,2000	9.00	8.00	13.00	20.00	30.00	17.00	69.00	47.00	35.00	115.00	4.00	7.00	6.00
Feb.,2000 @	9.00	8.00	13.00	20.00	29.00	17.00	69.00	44.00	35.00	115.00	3.50	7.00	6.00

@ As on 18.2.2000
Packed refined oil

Source : Food & Civil Supplies Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.