

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:155

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015

RISE IN PRICES

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of rise in price of essential commodities including foodgrains, pulses, edible oils and vegetables in the country during the recent months;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the causative factors identified therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government to contain the rising food prices?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) & (b): According to the Wholesale Price Index

(WPI),- over the last six months i.e. August 2014 to January 2015, prices of major essential commodities excepting pulses have declined as shown below;

Group/ 2014-15 (Month) % Variation  
Sub-group

Aug. Jan.#  
2014 2015

All commodities	185.9	178.3	-4.1
Food articles	265.3	252.4	-4.9
Cereals	237	233.7	-1.4
Pulses	239	254.9	6.7
Vegetables	373.4	259.6	-30.5
Food products	175.5	171.6	-2.2
Edible oils	145.8	145.8	0

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. #(latest available)

Rise in the prices of essential food items are due to several factors such as adverse weather conditions, rise in transportation costs, supply constraints and artificial shortages due to hoarding and black-marketing.

(c): Government has initiated several measures to contain price rise and improve the availability of essential food items. The recent steps taken in this regard are at Annexure.