

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 360
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.11.2019

PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

360. SHRI S. VENKATESAN: SHRI PASUNOORI DAYAKAR: SHRI VENKATESH NETHA
BORLAKUNTA: SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH: ADV. A.M. ARIFF: SHRI N.
REDDEPPA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the rise/fall in prices of various essential commodities including vegetables, tomato, edible oils, various pulses and onion in the country; .
- (b) if so, the details thereof comparatively during the last three years, item-wise along with the reasons for such rise of various prices; and
- (c) the details of remedial steps taken/ being taken by the Government to contain the rising food prices in future along with the alternative measures taken by evolving a proper mechanism as on date?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव)

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

(a) & (b) : All India Daily Average Retail Prices of 22 essential food items including vegetables, tomato, edible oils and pulses during the last three years is at **Annexure**. Prices of food items are inter-alia affected by mismatch in demand and supply, shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions and seasonality, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing, etc.

(c) : Government has taken various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food items which, inter-alia, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import duty and export management through instruments like Minimum Export Price, export restrictions, etc. to regulate domestic availability and moderate prices; imposition of stock limits and advising States for effective action against hoarders & black marketers. Also appropriate Minimum Support Price are promulgated to incentivize farmers for increasing production. Government is also implementing Schemes which, inter alia, include Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), etc. for increasing agricultural production and productivity through appropriate interventions.

Besides, Government is also implementing Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) to help moderate the volatility in prices of agri-horticultural commodities like pulses, onion, and potato. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing scheme “Operation Greens” for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain which, inter alia, has the objective of price stabilization for producers and consumers through production planning in the TOP clusters and introduction of dual use varieties.

Review meetings on price and availability situation of essential commodities are held at the highest level including at the level of Ministers, Committee of Secretaries, Inter Ministerial Committee, Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee and other Departmental level review meetings for taking appropriate price intervention decisions including possible market-intervention, if any.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 360 FOR 19.11.2019 REGARDING “PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES”****ALL INDIA YEARLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF 22 ESSENTIAL FOOD ITEMS MONITORED BY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

(Unit: in ₹/kg.)

Commodity \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019 (Till 13.11.2019)
Rice	27.32	29.23	30.05	31.38
Wheat	23.57	23.90	24.20	26.60
Atta (Wheat)	25.16	26.24	26.43	28.12
Gram Dal	90.78	87.28	66.47	65.89
Tur/Arhar Dal	131.72	84.02	71.07	80.55
Urad Dal	136.95	92.35	70.83	74.37
Moong Dal	94.55	77.57	73.46	80.10
Masoor Dal	82.75	70.32	61.29	62.61
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	130.99	131.00	125.79	129.15
Mustard Oil (Packed)	109.47	106.98	106.16	109.28
Vanaspati (Packed)	74.40	77.71	80.32	80.15
Soya Oil (Packed)	82.61	85.21	89.34	92.09
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	95.11	93.10	96.28	99.45
Palm Oil (Packed)	68.58	70.37	76.68	75.53
Potato	19.28	14.94	19.02	17.93
Onion	16.79	22.41	23.64	24.68
Tomato	26.01	32.32	21.82	31.02
Sugar	38.62	42.63	38.92	38.56
Gur	42.02	44.72	43.11	43.93
Milk (₹/ltr.)	39.96	41.58	42.31	43.57
Tea Loose	199.02	202.76	209.19	211.84
Salt Pack (Iodised)	14.98	15.11	15.22	15.37

Source: - State Civil Supplies Deptt.
