

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1998
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2026/ Phalgun 19, 1947 (Saka)**

Hike in prices of every day goods owing to weakening Rupee

1998. Shri PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of everyday items which remained stable or decreased for a few months after the GST rate cut have again started rising;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether depreciation of the Rupee against the Dollar and the rising global raw material prices have put increased pressure on input costs; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that the increased input costs are not passed on to the consumers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): In September 2025, the Government has rationalized Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates on many goods and services and reduced GST rates from 28 per cent to 18 per cent, 18 per cent to 12 or 5 per cent, and from 12 per cent to 5 per cent/Nil. In the post-GST rate cut period, since October 2025 till January 2026, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation had moderated to 1.1% *vis-à-vis* 1.7% during July to September 2025. The prices of most essential commodities, which are closely monitored by the Department of Consumer Affairs, have continued to remain stable or exhibited a decreasing trend. The details are given in **Annexure**.

(c) and (d): While a depreciation in rupee and rise in the prices of raw materials in the global market can put an upward pressure on input costs in certain sectors, the final effect depends upon a host of factors including the extent of the pass-through of international commodity prices to the domestic market, availability of substitute input goods, measures to contain inflationary pressures and volatility in the exchange rate movements. With a view to reducing input costs, boosting domestic manufacturing, promoting export competitiveness and supporting strategic sectors, in the Union Budget 2026-27, the Government announced rationalisation of the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on several goods.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1998 dated 10.03.2026.

All India Monthly Average Retail Prices of Essential Commodities

Commodities	Monthly Average Retail Prices								Percentage variation						
	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
Rice	42.67	42.86	42.98	42.91	42.98	42.84	42.98	41.92	0.45	0.28	-0.16	0.16	-0.33	0.33	-2.47
Wheat	34.52	34.78	34.92	34.92	34.93	34.9	35.11	33.76	0.75	0.40	0.00	0.03	-0.09	0.60	-3.85
Atta (Wheat)	39.89	40.16	40.3	40.23	40.28	40.28	40.59	39.4	0.68	0.35	-0.17	0.12	0.00	0.77	-2.93
Gram Dal	87.02	87	86.78	86.58	86.28	85.68	85.76	83.92	-0.02	-0.25	-0.23	-0.35	-0.70	0.09	-2.15
Tur/Arhar Dal	117.66	115.76	114.88	115.18	115.38	115.75	120.24	119.29	-1.61	-0.76	0.26	0.17	0.32	3.88	-0.79
Urad Dal	114.37	114.03	113.82	113.63	113.59	113.95	115.98	116.04	-0.30	-0.18	-0.17	-0.04	0.32	1.78	0.05
Moong Dal	110.36	110.33	110.39	110.23	110.22	110.19	110.63	109.04	-0.03	0.05	-0.14	-0.01	-0.03	0.40	-1.44
Masoor Dal	89	89.24	89.29	89.26	89.48	89.28	89.16	87.71	0.27	0.06	-0.03	0.25	-0.22	-0.13	-1.63
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	191.99	191.63	191.62	191.38	192	193.08	195.82	197.99	-0.19	-0.01	-0.13	0.32	0.56	1.42	1.11
Mustard Oil (Packed)	186.52	188.25	188.84	188.81	188.83	188.67	189.31	189.24	0.93	0.31	-0.02	0.01	-0.08	0.34	-0.04
Vanaspati (Packed)	156.28	156.41	156.44	156.16	156.14	156.35	156.64	154.61	0.08	0.02	-0.18	-0.01	0.13	0.19	-1.30
Soya Oil (Packed)	149.55	149.76	149.42	149.12	149.08	149.44	151.26	150.81	0.14	-0.23	-0.20	-0.03	0.24	1.22	-0.30
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	164.26	165.13	165.4	166.07	166.68	168.52	171.76	172.72	0.53	0.16	0.41	0.37	1.10	1.92	0.56
Palm Oil (Packed)	131.37	132.25	132.55	132.55	132.54	132.82	134.74	135.16	0.67	0.23	0.00	-0.01	0.21	1.45	0.31
Potato	25.58	25.16	25.41	26.6	25.62	23.52	22.14	19.77	-1.64	0.99	4.68	-3.68	-8.20	-5.87	-10.70
Onion	28.24	27.5	26.54	26.61	27.6	28.7	27.48	25.07	-2.62	-3.49	0.26	3.72	3.99	-4.25	-8.77
Tomato	52.75	42.03	38.46	44.02	49.6	46.1	32.65	26.67	-20.32	-8.49	14.46	12.68	-7.06	-29.18	-18.32
Sugar	46.2	46.42	46.53	46.51	46.51	46.35	46.35	45.85	0.48	0.24	-0.04	0.00	-0.34	0.00	-1.08
Gur	56.35	56.8	57.35	57.21	57.02	56.93	56.91	55.18	0.80	0.97	-0.24	-0.33	-0.16	-0.04	-3.04
Milk	59.09	59.24	59.23	59.24	59.15	59.24	59.16	58.46	0.25	-0.02	0.02	-0.15	0.15	-0.14	-1.18
Tea Loose	271.3	271.35	270.9	270.65	270.74	269.84	271.26	259.47	0.02	-0.17	-0.09	0.03	-0.33	0.53	-4.35
Salt Pack (Iodised)	21.35	21.47	21.43	21.38	21.52	21.52	21.58	21.64	0.56	-0.19	-0.23	0.65	0.00	0.28	0.28
Bajra (whole)	37.79	37.75	37.67	37.71	37.86	37.83	37.91	37.21	-0.11	-0.21	0.11	0.40	-0.08	0.21	-1.85
Jowar (whole)	43.13	43.09	42.98	43.03	43.27	43.46	43.84	43.46	-0.09	-0.26	0.12	0.56	0.44	0.87	-0.87
Maida (wheat)	41.43	41.64	41.79	41.67	41.74	41.7	41.82	40.9	0.51	0.36	-0.29	0.17	-0.10	0.29	-2.20
Ragi (whole)	53.62	53.49	53.62	53.76	53.89	54.32	54.44	55.26	-0.24	0.24	0.26	0.24	0.80	0.22	1.51
Suji (whole)	46.45	46.63	46.86	46.62	46.69	46.63	46.64	44.43	0.39	0.49	-0.51	0.15	-0.13	0.02	-4.74

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Besan	96.75	96.58	96.32	96.28	96.25	95.84	95.89	94.41	-0.18	-0.27	-0.04	-0.03	-0.43	0.05	-1.54
Desi Ghee	664.09	667.18	665.21	670.7	674.98	676.5	679.06	678.79	0.47	-0.30	0.83	0.64	0.23	0.38	-0.04
Butter (Pasteurised)	59.17	59.32	59.05	58.96	59.06	58.98	58.95	58.64	0.25	-0.46	-0.15	0.17	-0.14	-0.05	-0.53
Eggs	76.72	77.37	77.77	79.9	83.96	84.86	82.42	80.87	0.85	0.52	2.74	5.08	1.07	-2.88	-1.88
Brinjal	42.3	42.32	43.44	45.9	44.68	41.96	39.93	37.1	0.05	2.65	5.66	-2.66	-6.09	-4.84	-7.09
Black Pepper (whole)	87.34	87.31	87.16	87.14	87.04	86.96	87.07	86.5	-0.03	-0.17	-0.02	-0.11	-0.09	0.13	-0.65
Coriander (whole)	37.06	37.12	37.39	37.25	37.36	37.6	37.66	36.42	0.16	0.73	-0.37	0.30	0.64	0.16	-3.29
Cummin Seed (whole)	42.05	41.76	41.71	41.36	41.09	40.99	40.9	39.34	-0.69	-0.12	-0.84	-0.65	-0.24	-0.22	-3.81
Red Chillies (whole)	27.8	27.56	27.51	27.54	27.61	27.7	27.98	27.74	-0.86	-0.18	0.11	0.25	0.33	1.01	-0.86
Turmeric (powder)	16.19	16.2	16.21	16.2	16.19	16.21	16.26	15.78	0.06	0.06	-0.06	-0.06	0.12	0.31	-2.95
Banana	49.8	49.23	48.58	47.64	47.24	47.02	47.34	46.07	-1.14	-1.32	-1.93	-0.84	-0.47	0.68	-2.68

Source: Department of Consumer Affairs