

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4356**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2017**

**PRICE RISE OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES**

4356. DR. BHARATIBEN D. SHYAL: SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:  
SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA: SHRI SUBHASH PATEL:  
DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ:

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

- (a) whether there has been continuous rise in prices of essential items including wheat, onion and oil etc. and if so, the steps taken by the Government on urgent basis to effectively control the price-rise in the interest of common man;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to make available wheat, onion and oil etc. in retail stores, throughout the country to contain price rise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any step has been taken to strengthen the Public Distribution System to control the inflation in food prices and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether almost 40% rise in the prices of vegetables particularly of onion and potato has been registered from May, 2016 and if so, the details thereof, vegetable-wise; and
- (e) the reasons for the rapid rise in prices of vegetables particularly of onion and potato along with the details of the steps taken by the Government to control the price rise of vegetables?

**ANSWER**

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री**  
**(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE**  
**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) : Prices of groundnut oil, vanaspati, soya oil, sunflower oil and palm oil increased while prices of wheat, mustard oil and onions decreased over the last one year. The details prices of of some of the essential commodities are given at **Annexure**.

Government has taken various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food items which inter-alia, include creation of buffer stock of pulses for effective market intervention; appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import and export duty, Minimum Export Price, export restrictions etc. to regulate domestic availability and moderate prices; imposition of stock limits, provision of higher Minimum Support Prices to incentivize farmers for increasing production etc.

(b) : No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) : The Government enacted the National Food Security Act in 2013, which provides for coverage of two-thirds of the population of the country for receiving highly subsidised foodgrains @ Rs. 1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains/wheat/rice.

The Act is being implemented in all the States/UTs and covers about 80 crore persons to receive highly subsidised foodgrains as per the provisions of the Act.

(d) & (e) : The prices of onions and potatoes as on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017 was lower than prices prevailing on the corresponding day of May, 2016. The details are given in the table below:

Vegetables	Daily Average Retail Price (₹/kg)		
	On 23/03/2017	on 23/05/2016	% Variation
Potato	13.47	19.56	-31.13
Onion	14.66	15.63	-6.21
Tomato	16.98	30.15	-43.68

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

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**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO4356 FOR 28.03.2017 REGARDING PRICE RISE OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES.**

Commodities	All India Daily Average Retail Price (₹/kg)						
	Price As On	1 Year Ago	2 years Ago	3 Years Ago	% Variation over		
	23/03/2017	23/03/2016	23/03/2015	21/03/2014	1 Year	2 years	3 Years
Rice	29.05	28.57	27.64	27.24	1.68	5.1	6.64
Wheat	24.42	26.28	23	21.76	-7.08	6.17	12.22
Gram Dal	88.4	66.23	49.81	48.6	33.47	77.47	81.89
Tur/Arhar Dal	88.69	134.98	82.74	70.23	-34.29	7.19	26.29
Urad Dal	98.43	141.26	80.83	66.09	-30.32	21.77	48.93
Moong Dal	79.32	101.37	100.28	85.38	-21.75	-20.9	-7.1
Masoor Dal	74.82	79.31	73	60.28	-5.66	2.49	24.12
Sugar	42.46	34.72	32.71	34.68	22.29	29.81	22.43
Milk	40.9	38.87	38.49	35.54	5.22	6.26	15.08
Groundnut Oil	133.63	120.96	116.61	120.97	10.47	14.6	10.47
Mustard Oil	110.12	113.93	100.1	97.98	-3.34	10.01	12.39
Vanaspati	77.93	72.63	76.02	77.33	7.3	2.51	0.78
Soya Oil	86.31	79.94	84.53	85.67	7.97	2.11	0.75
Sunflower Oil	93.89	93.86	93.78	96.91	0.03	0.12	-3.12
Palm Oil	70.35	64.91	68.05	72.72	8.38	3.38	-3.26
Potato	13.47	17.52	15.64	15.86	-23.12	-13.87	-15.07
Onion	14.66	16.87	23.66	17.4	-13.1	-38.04	-15.75
Tomato	16.98	16.11	20.37	15.29	5.4	-16.64	11.05

Source: State Civil Supplies Department.

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