

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 299
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2016

PRICE RISE

299. SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA: SHRI D.K. SURESH: SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK: SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE: SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN: SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN: SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: PROF. K.V. THOMAS: KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH: ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR: DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN: SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO: SHRI SATAV RAJEEV: SHRI B.V. NAIK: SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI: SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO: SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL: SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR: DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD: SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: DR. HEENA VIJAY KUMAR GAVIT: DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN: SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL: DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:

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

- (a) whether the prices of essential commodities including foodgrains, pulses, edible oils and vegetables have suddenly increased sharply across the country in the recent months, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether shortages and steep variation in prices of the said commodities have been reported from different parts of the country during the last six months, if so, the details thereof along with the demand and supply of the commodities and the corrective steps taken in this regard indicating the import thereof during the said period;
- (c) whether the cases of violation of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 have come to the notice of the Government across the country during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the details of pulses and other essential commodities seized during the said period and the directions issued to the States in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any policy to save the consumers from the impact of the price rise, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to control the prices of the said commodities and check their hoarding and black marketing in the country along with the achievements thereof?

ANSWER

महोदय, वृक्षों की कीमतें घटती हैं।
जैसे फूल की कीमतें

THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b) : During last six months All India Average Retail prices of Tur and Moong in pulses, Mustard, Soya and Sunflower in Edible oil and Onion in Vegetables have declined while there has been increase in the prices of Gram and Urad dal in pulses, Groundnut and Palm oil in Edible oils and Potato and Tomato in Vegetables, details is at **Annexure I**. Rise in the prices of essential food items are due to factors such as shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities and hoarding and black marketing. Government took various corrective steps to contain price rise which includes the following:-

- National Consultation Meeting of Ministers of States & UTs in charge of Food and Consumer Affairs, on prices of food items was held on 21.5.2016 at New Delhi and States/UTs were advised to take steps to keep prices of essential commodities including Pulses, Edible Oil etc. under control.
- Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding & black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

(c) : Yes madam. Details of violation of Essential Commodities Act (EC Act) are at **Annexure II**. Details of pulses seized are at **Annexure III**. State/UTs have also been advised to dispose of the seized stocks of pulses into the market after following due procedure provided in the EC Act, 1955.

(d) & (e) : A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities. To monitor the unscrupulous trading, black-marketing, hoarding and cartelling in essential food commodities like Pulses, Edible Oils etc. and to ensure effective and coordinated action by different enforcement agencies, a Group of Officers consisting of representative from these agencies has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (CA). It meets regularly to review the food inflation, in consultation with States and advises to States and other agencies the course of action to keep the prices at reasonable level and share data/information to ensure coordinated action by different enforcement agencies, including intelligence under the EC Act. Details of steps taken by the Government to control prices is at **Annexure IV**.

ANNEXURE - I**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.299 FOR 19.07.2016 REGARDING PRICE RISE.**-----
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Commodities	All India Average Retail Price (Rs/Kg.)						
	Price As On	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	6 Months Ago	% Variation over		
	14/7/2016	14/6/2016	14/4/2016	14/1/2016	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months
Rice	27.47	27.14	26.36	27	1.22	4.21	1.74
Wheat	23.31	23.56	23.28	23.15	-1.06	0.13	0.69
Gram Dal	93.23	77.98	66.25	67.35	19.56	40.72	38.43
Tur/Arhar Dal	139.11	139.8	137	146.53	-0.49	1.54	-5.06
Urad Dal	151.05	152.36	137.93	138.28	-0.86	9.51	9.23
Moong Dal	97.29	98.39	99.86	105.68	-1.12	-2.57	-7.94
Masoor Dal	86	83.64	79.45	84.81	2.82	8.24	1.4
Groundnut Oil	134.35	131.93	123.38	124.79	1.83	8.89	7.66
Mustard Oil	108.95	109.43	102.32	112.76	-0.44	6.48	-3.38
Vanaspati	75.16	74.13	70.82	72.43	1.39	6.13	3.77
Soya Oil	82.92	82.1	80.06	83	1	3.57	-0.1
Sunflower Oil	96.95	96.38	93.38	98.67	0.59	3.82	-1.74
Palm Oil	69.6	69.96	66.61	63.56	-0.51	4.49	9.5
Potato	22.91	21.47	15.86	15.11	6.71	44.45	51.62
Onion	17.03	15.89	15.75	22.97	7.17	8.13	-25.86
Tomato	42	41.77	18.09	29.81	0.55	132.17	40.89
Source: State Civil Supplies Department							

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.299 FOR 19.07.2016 REGARDING PRICE RISE.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 DURING 2014
(Relating to offences under EC Act- for other than violation of stock control orders/ for violation of stock control orders)

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons			Detentions Ordered	Value of goods Confiscated (Rs. In Lakhs)
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	6884	64	0	0		239.66
2	Arunachal Pradesh						
3	Assam	184	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
4	Bihar	25	9	6	-		19.64
5	Chhattisgarh	101	0	0	0		12.06
6	Delhi						
7	Goa	44	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
8	Gujarat	7217	38	24	-	18	117.11
9	Haryana	63	15	4	1		7.08
10	Himachal Pradesh	13589	-	-	-		12.55
11	Jammu & Kashmir						
12	Jharkhand						
13	Karnataka	129	52	0	1		0.01
14	Kerala	18702	11	0	0		18.7
15	Madhya Pradesh	3255	35	89	3		276.05
16	Maharashtra	515	6475	58	0		11958.18
17	Manipur	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
18	Meghalaya	290	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
19	Mizoram	107	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
20	Nagaland	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
21	Odisha						
22	Punjab	141	NIL	NIL	NIL		6.34
23	Rajasthan						
24	Sikkim	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
25	Tamilnadu	9176	3949	1980	2068	124	87.09
26	Telangana						
27	Tripura						
28	Uttarakhand	12571	87	264	0		356.7
29	Uttar Pradesh	455	122	27	-		61.97
30	West Bengal	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
31	A & N Islands						
32	Chandigarh	3	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli						
34	Daman & Diu						
35	Lakshadweep	780	10	21	0		0.83
36	Puducherry	6217	0	0	0		19.76
	Total	80448	10867	2473	2073	142	13193.73

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 DURING 2015
(Relating to offences under EC Act- for other than violation of stock control orders/ for violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 31.3.2016

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons			Detentions Ordered	Value of goods Confiscated (Rs. In Lakhs)
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	1300	0	23	23		1056.51
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	-	-		0.01
3	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR		NR
4	Bihar	299	NIL	NIL	NIL		NR
5	Chhattisgarh	673	0	0	0		42.28
6	Delhi	24	2	NIL	NIL		NIL
7	Goa	96	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
8	Gujarat	9098	25	16	-	28	112.31
9	Haryana	3229	123	138	-		120.38
10	Himachal Pradesh	39314	-	-	-		31.69
11	Jammu & Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR		NR
12	Jharkhand	140	NR	NR	NR		NR
13	Karnataka	4529	199	0	6		16.71
14	Kerala	8465	26	12	1		64.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	38648	-	111	6		92.46
16	Maharashtra	6302	777	277	2	1	4669.66
17	Manipur	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
18	Meghalaya	41	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
19	Mizoram	141	-	-	-		-
20	Nagaland	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
21	Odisha	2291	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	0.02
22	Punjab	10443	-	-	-		-
23	Rajasthan	840	NR	NR	NR		NIL
24	Sikkim	71	-	-	-		NIL
25	Tamilnadu	29	41	41	0	196	0.09
26	Telangana	4601	349	2	0	1	609.47
27	Tripura	199	NR	1	NR		57.13
28	Uttarakhand	5	9	9	1		2.5
29	Uttar Pradesh	2045	107	121	17		252.71
30	West Bengal	780	174	52	-		96.15
31	A & N Islands	86	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
32	Chandigarh	2	1	17	3		-
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
34	Daman & Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR		NIL
35	Lakshadweep	3	NIL	NIL	NIL		NIL
36	Puducherry	741	1	2	-		0.63
	TOTAL	134438	1835	822	59	227	7224.71

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 DURING 2016

(Relating to offences under EC Act- for violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 13.07.2016

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons			Value of goods Confiscated (Rs. In Lakhs)	Detentions Ordered	Reported upto
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		April
2.	Delhi	77	-	-	-	-		January
3.	Goa	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		May
4.	Gujarat	4428	11	11	-	51.03	9	May
5.	Haryana	46	25	3	-	10.29		April (Except 03/2016)
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6020	-	-	-	6.44		March
7.	Kerala	65	22	13	0	0.34		April
8.	Maharashtra	165	242	125	0	73.37	1	April
9.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		March
10.	Mizoram	10	-	-	-	-		June (Except 2/4/2016)
11.	Meghalaya	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		May
12.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		January
13.	Rajasthan	35	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		*
14.	Sikkim	48	-	-	-	-		May (Except 03/2016)
15.	Tamilnadu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	67	-
16.	Telangana	790	105	5	5	628.6	7	April
17.	Tripura	120	0	0	0	1.36		May
18.	Uttarakhand	595	22	4	-	0.3		May
19.	Uttar Pradesh	10966	49	57	21	115.49		April
20.	West Bengal	211	53	13	NIL	10868.16		May
21.	A & N Islands	35	-	-	-	-		June
22.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	3	1	Nil		May
23.	D & N Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		April
24.	Puducherry	469	-	3	-	2.14		June
	TOTAL	24091	529	237	27	11757.52	84	

Note : Other States have not submitted report so far.

NR : Not Reported

* : Raids under Pulses only

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.299 FOR 19.07.2016 REGARDING PRICE RISE.**ENFORCEMENT DATA UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955****(PULSES)****PERIOD: FROM OCTOBER, 2015 TILL DATE****(14.7.2016)**

Sl. No.	State	Raids conducted, quantity seized & quantity disposed (MT)			
		Raids	Qty seized	Qty disposed	Balance
1.	Chhattisgarh	112	6566.62	6439.25	127.37
2.	Haryana	1669	14.60	14.60	NIL
3.	Karnataka	1351	25545.83	23710.94	1834.94
4.	Madhya Pradesh	969	3273.60	2201.90	1071.60
5.	Maharashtra	5250	87167.37	87167.37	Nil
6.	Telangana	1924	9534.40	3261.03	6173.37
7.	Rajasthan	875	2610.21	2298.81	311.00
8.	Jharkhand	140	282.02	0	282.02
9.	Odisha	180	1410.26	1410.26	-
10.	Andhra Pradesh	1300	1361.52	352.50	1009.02
11.	Gujarat	214	54.39	0	54.39
12.	Himachal Pradesh	500	3.42	0	3.42
13.	GNCT of Delhi	76	14.16	8.26	6.34
	Total	14560	137838.4	126864.92	10873.47

Source: Department of Consumer Affairs

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) & (e) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.299 FOR 19.07.2016 REGARDING PRICE RISE.**

Steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items:

Pulses

1. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
2. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
3. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
4. MSP raised for kharif pulses of 2016-17 for Tur, Urad and Moong as well as for Rabi pulses of Gram and Masoor for season 2015-16.
5. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.7 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention.
6. Government has released around 21,000 MT of pulses from the buffer stock (consisting of Tur and Urad) to States/UTs at subsidized rates for retailing by them at not more than Rs 120/- per kg to improve availability and stabilise prices.
7. Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned new contracts in Chana to dampen speculative activities in Chana and in respect of running contracts in Chana disallowed taking fresh positions to reduce speculative activities.
8. Strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.
9. Setting up of a Group of Officers for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc.

Edible Oils

10. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
11. MSP (including bonus) increased for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.