

1	2	1	2
11	Gur	(c) Other agricultural items	
12	Coriander/Dhaniya	22	Cotton
13	Soya bean/seed	23	Cotton seed Oilcake/ Kapasias Khali
14	Isabgul seed	24	Kapas
15	Refined Soya oil	25	Maize Feed
16	Jeera (Cumin seed)	26	Mentha oil
17	Pepper	27	Copra
18	Turmeric	28	Sacking
19	Coconut Oil	29	Raw Jute
20	Rape/Mustard Seed	30	Castor seed
21	RBD palmolein	31	Rubber
		32	Soymeal

Difference between wholesale and retail prices

†2356. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the report published under the caption 'the costly stretch from farm to table' of the daily newspaper— Business Standard on 27 July, 2012;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a difference of upto 300 per cent between the wholesale prices of common consumer goods and retail consumer purchase prices in the country is seen from time to time;

(c) if so, Government's views in this regard; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is almost same situation of organized and unorganized retail market in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

Wholesale and retail price data as reported by the State Governments from across a large number of reporting centres show that in the case of cereals and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

pulses, by and large the maximum variation between wholesale and retail prices appears to be less than 20% barring a few outliers where it is higher than 20%. In the case of edible oils it is noticed that the maximum variations are, mainly, even less than 20% as in the case of soya oil, vanaspati, sunflower oil, palm oil etc. barring a few centres. In respect of vegetables, potato, onion and tomato for which prices are reported on a daily basis, the maximum variation is by and large of a much higher order going up to the extent of about 75 per cent, barring some outliers.

The price variation between wholesale and retail prices are on account of different layers in the distribution channels, lack of market integration, transport and handling cost, wholesalers and retailers margin, packing expenses and various taxes levied by different State Governments. In view of these, the extent of gap between retail and wholesale prices tend to vary between different commodities.

(d) Retail trade is a subject matter of the State Governments. No data is centrally maintained on retail trade.

Revision of guidelines for distribution of foodgrains

2357. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the present Food Security Bill and perceived that it is not sufficient to meet the imbalance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to revise the guidelines in regard to distribution of foodgrains upto 35 kg. Per month to a family irrespective of above/below poverty line families; and

(d) the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Government has introduced the National Food Security Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 22.12.2011. After introduction, the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for examination, which is examining the same.