

Increase in the retail price of vegetables and fruits

‡1012. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumer selling price of vegetables and fruits have increased every year in the country from 2009-10 to November 2013-14;

(b) if so, the percentage increase in the consumer retail price of the above said products during the above mentioned period; and

(c) whether Government considers less production of these products as the main reason of this price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) During the last four years, 2009 to 2013, the retail price of fruits and vegetables has shown mixed trend as given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) The prices are mainly affected by demand-supply mismatch. However, there are other factors also that contribute to price rise like increase in cost of inputs, cost of transportation and problems in storage and weather conditions.

Statement*Percentage increase in prices of Fruits and Vegetables*

Month/Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
January	10.74	21.64	29.45	-15.17	18.99
February	4.10	17.32	18.12	6.25	13.90
March	3.94	13.64	18.00	20.90	3.27
April	5.71	10.81	14.63	29.79	0.00
May	16.91	10.06	7.43	28.19	7.05
June	27.21	12.14	1.03	25.51	16.67
July	32.64	7.85	1.46	23.44	17.44

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Month/Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
August	29.25	0.53	10.99	18.40	18.73
September	18.87	4.23	12.18	8.60	19.58
October	9.94	2.01	14.29	3.02	33.47
November	18.60	-0.49	10.34	7.14	NA
December	32.87	15.26	-15.07	18.28	NA

Source : Consumer Price Index, Industrial workers (CPI-IW), Labour Bureau Shimla.

NA : Not Available

Production, export and consumption of onion

†1013. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of onion produced in the last two years;
- (b) the quantity of onion exported in the year 2012-13; and
- (c) the total consumption of onion in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) The quantity of Onion produced within last two years is as follows:

Crop year	Production (lakh tonnes)	Exports (April-March) (Lakh tonnes)
2011-12	175.11	-
2012-13	163.09	18.23

(c) According to the April-2012 report of Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), Ministry of Agriculture, the estimated onion consumption in the country is 15.7 million tonnes (MMT).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.