

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Delhi	3785 7538	13596 22831	17381 30369 <sup>\$</sup>
4.	Himachal Pradesh	6395 8946	9101 17891	15496 26837 <sup>\$</sup>
5.	Punjab	0	72510	72510
6.	Karnataka	206362	0	206362
7.	Chhattisgarh	107573	0	107573
8.	Maharashtra	164636	210497	375133
9.	Chandigarh	397.1 0	595.65 1608.25	992.75 1608.25 <sup>\$</sup>
10.	Madhya Pradesh	66366	184597	265463*
11.	Bihar	245745	163830	409575

<sup>\$</sup> Indicates 'Tide Over' allocation. Rest are at NFSA prices.

\* Includes 14500 tons per month of maize at ₹ 1/- per kg.

#### Rise in price of essential commodities

2526. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of essential commodities have increased by leaps and bounds breaking previous records specially after the recent Lok Sabha election;

(b) whether Government is going to take any concrete measures to find out the root cause of such unprecedented price-rise, illegal hoarding, unholy practices of the unscrupulous traders;

(c) how Government is planning to address this serious problem of rising price in near future; and

(d) whether Government proposes to regulate the prices and simultaneously make the supply of essential commodities easily available at reasonable prices through some designated channels to the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) No Sir, as per the latest Wholesale Price Index (WPI) *i.e.* for June 2014, the rate of increase in the prices of most of the essential food items has been lower than the corresponding period an year ago *i.e.* June 2013 as given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) to (d) Details of the recent initiatives as well future strategy proposed to tackle the issue of rise in prices of essential commodities is given in the Statement-II.

***Statement-I***

*Rate of inflation based on Wholesale Price Index*

Commodity Name	June, 2013	June, 2014
<b>Food Articles</b>	<b>10.27</b>	<b>8.14</b>
Cereals	17.87	5.33
Rice	20.43	10.24
Wheat	13.94	0.73
Pulses	1.59	1.78
Gram	-9.20	-13.34
Arhar	14.16	2.36
Moong	20.08	25.19
Masur	15.60	15.97
Urad	4.64	19.55
Fruits and Vegetables	9.45	6.14
Vegetables	17.36	-5.89
Potato	-8.38	42.52
Onion	114.76	-10.70
Fruits	0.86	21.40
Milk	4.08	10.82
Eggs, Meat and Fish	12.48	10.27
<b>Food Products</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>2.33</b>
Sugar	6.93	-2.09
Edible Oils	0.07	-0.75
Vanaspati	1.85	-1.34
Groundnut Oil	1.42	-16.92
Palm Oil	-3.69	5.87
Mustard and Rapeseed Oil	0.66	1.31
Soyabean Oil	1.53	-2.57
Sunflower Oil	-1.85	-4.98

*Source:* DIPP

**Statement-II**

*Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items*

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**(a) Recent Initiatives**

- Minimum Export Price (MEP) fixed for potatoes at USD 450 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 26.06.2014 and of onions at USD 500 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 2.07.2014 respectively.
- States have been advised to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from the APMC Act.
- Government has approved the release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL and APL families in states pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- The Government has approved for the current year Open Market Sale of ten million tonnes of wheat in the domestic market.
- Advisory to State Governments issued to take action against hoarding and 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.
- Imposed stock limits in respect of onion and potato for a period of one year with effect from 3rd July, 2014 under the Essential Commodities Act.
- Based on interaction with the State Governments/UTs on 4th July, 2014, a decision has been taken to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding and black marketing a non bailable offence and increase the period of detention to one year from existing six months.

**(b) Future Strategy through Integrated Action Plan**

In the Conference of State Ministers of Consumer Affairs and Food and administrators of UTs held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Finance Minister on 04-07-2014 an Integrated Action Plan has been agreed upon for implementation over the next six months which include the following:

1. Special focus on monitoring and containing the prices of essential food items like rice, jowar, bajra, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, moong dal, tur dal and edible oils, milk and eggs;
  2. Identification by State Governments of vulnerable areas prone to supply shortages for special monitoring;
  3. Focus on adequate storage as well as quality of coarse cereals like Jowar, Bajra and Maize to ensure availability. In this context States may also
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mobilise existing storage capacity utilizing the Government/Private/Cooperative storage infrastructure to ensure decentralized stocks across cities/rural areas.

4. States may establish a revolving fund for buying products/produce in bulk and regulate their storage as well as distribution during peak demand *i.e.* festival season at reasonable prices and through PDS for BPL card holders; and
5. Facilitating sale of essential food items through PDS shops, cooperative societies etc. for coverage of economically weaker sections at reasonable prices.

#### **Distribution of foodgrains with subsidy**

2527. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any details of the foodgrains distributed with subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years, State-wise and item-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States/Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes at subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIPs) for distribution to targeted beneficiaries. State-wise and grain-wise details of allocation and offtake under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes for the last five years 2009-10 to 2013-14 given in the Annexures.

[See Appendix 232 Annexures Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28].

#### **Physical verification of beneficiaries under PDS**

†2528. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of households getting benefited from the Public Distribution System in Rajasthan, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has ever done physical verification of the beneficiaries, if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to make physical verification of such, households, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.