Written Answers to		[25 July, 2014]		Unstarred Questions 203	
1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Gujarat	13	286.96	13	283.64
6.	Haryana	11	104.10	11	104.10
7.	Karnataka	42	476.73	32	363.71
8.	Madhya Pradesh	7	26.56	0	0.00
9.	Maharashtra	109	1889.08	105	1724.99
10.	Punjab	18	151.30	7	69.22
11.	Telangana	1	1.04	1	1.04
12.	Tamil Nadu	37	606.38	37	556.66
13.	Uttar Pradesh	76	1875.27	75	1779.44
14.	Uttarakhand	9	80.71	0	0.00
	Total	356	5914.40	302	5211.75

Source: TUFS Cell, State Bank of India

Measures to control rising prices of essential commodities

1918. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the current Whole sale Price Index (WPI) of essential commodities including vegetables, foodgrains, edible oil, pulses etc.;
- (b) whether there has been a rise in the prices of essential commodities during the last six months, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has assessed the extent of losses on account of damage to foodgrains due to shortage of storage space, unsafe storage and poor handling and if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the quantum and value of foodgrains lost during last five years; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken by Government to control the rising prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Over the last six months (i.e. January, 2014 to June, 2014), the rate of inflation for Food Articles rose by 6.85% and for Food Products by 1.84% respectively. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) As reported by FCI, no damage of foodgrains can be directly attributed to lack of adequate storage space. However, foodgrains can be damaged due to loss of moisture during prolonged storage, spillage, exposure to rains, floods, pilferage, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc.

The requisite details during the last five years in FCI is as under:

Year	Accrued quantity of damaged/non issuable foodgrains (in tonnes)	Estimated loss (In₹)
2009-10	6,702	629,25,012.00
2010-11	6,346	658,12,772.80
2011-12	3,338	345,16,636.00
2012-13	3,148.44	248,94,207.49
2013-14	24,695.455	2,386,79,454.40

Source: FCI

(d) The recent steps taken by the Government to contain price rise of essential commodities are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I
Food Inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (January 2014 to June 2014)

Commodity	Wholesale	% Variation	
	January 2014	June 2014	(Jan June'2014)
1	2	3	4
Food Articles	233.7	249.7	6.85
Cereals	229.9	231.3	0.61
Rice	230.0	241.1	4.83

Written Answers to		[25 July, 2014]	Unstarred Questions	205
1	2	3	4	
Wheat	220.2	206.7	-6.13	
Pulses	226.9	233.8	3.04	
Gram	208.0	197.5	-5.05	
Arhar	214.4	217.0	1.21	
Moong	305.4	351.9	15.23	
Masur	223.1	248.4	11.34	
Urad	243.3	269.7	10.85	
Vegetables	216.8	271.6	25.28	
Potato	198.6	304.0	53.07	
Onion	341.6	302.8	-11.36	
Tomato	181.8	NA	NA	
Fruits	202.4	226.9	12.10	
Milk	225.7	237.6	5.27	
Eggs, Meat & Fish	284.9	293.1	2.88	
Food Products	168.5	171.6	1.84	
Sugar	184.5	187.3	1.52	
Edible Oils	147.1	145.1	-1.36	
Vanaspati	123.4	125.1	1.38	
Groundnut Oil	173.0	160.6	-7.17	
Palm Oil	128.4	129.9	1.17	
Mustard & Rapeseed Oil	159.2	154.2	-3.14	
Soyabean Oil	158.6	155.3	-2.08	
Sunflower Oil	128.2	125.8	-1.87	

Source: Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

Statement-II

The recent steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

- 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).
- 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.
- In the Union Budget 2014-15, a sum of ₹ 500 crore has been provided for establishing a Price Stabilization Fund with the objective of protecting the farmers from price volatility in agricultural produce.

Food processing units at Goa

1919. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of food processing units functioning in Goa and the items they process;
 - (b) the financial assistance given to each of such units;
 - (c) the essential features of the present schemes in force;