**Government of India**

# Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

**Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*28**

#### TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.2.2013

**Price Rise**

\*28. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION miHkksDrk ekeys] [kk| vkSj lkoZtfud forj.k ea=h be pleased to state:**

1. whether the prices of essential commodities have shown a rising trend during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to impose a ban and/or regulate forward trading in essential commodities including farm products in view of the price-rise;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the other effective steps taken to address the issue?

**ANSWER**

**miHkksDrk ekeys] [kk| vkSj lkoZtfud forj.k ea=ky; esa jkT; ea=h ¼Lora= izHkkj½**

**¼izks% ds0 oh0 FkkWel½**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)**

**FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**(PROF. K. V. THOMAS)**

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*28 FOR 26.2.2012 REGARDING PRICE RISE**

(a) & (b): The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) shows that during the last six months (August 2012 - January, 2013), the rate of inflation for food articles which was at 9.34% for the month of August, 2012 declined for two months (September and October, 2012) and started rising from November, 2012 onwards and is at 11.88% for the month of January 2013. This is mainly due to the rise in the prices of rice, wheat, moong dal, vegetables including potato and onion, fruits and groundnut oil. The rate of inflation in respect of pulses (except moong dal) milk, egg, meat and fish, sugar and edible oils (except groundnut oil) showed a declining trend during this period.

During the last six months from August 2012 to January 2013, the trend in retail prices of essential commodities in the major trading centres across the country shows that retail prices of rice, wheat, moong dal, groundnut oil and onion have showed an increasing trend. The retail prices of pulses (except moong dal), sugar, vanaspati and palm oil in edible oils, potato and tomato in vegetables registered a declining trend while the prices of milk remained stable. The prices of mustard oil, soya oil and sunflower oil witnessed a mixed trend during the period. Details of retail prices in four metro cities are given in **Annexure I**.

Rise in the prices of essential food products are due to several factors such as shortfall in domestic supply relative to demand, hardening of international prices, rising fuel cost, changes in consumption pattern, adverse weather conditions, improvement in income and living standards, changes in dietary habits as well as insufficient logistics and storage facilities.

(c) & (d): The Government does not propose to ban futures trading in essential commodities including that of farm products. The Forward Markets Commission, a statutory body established under the Forward Contracts( Regulation) Act, 1952, regulates forward trading in agricultural and non agricultural commodities.

In so far as the price rise in essential commodities including farm products due to the commodity futures trading is concerned, an Expert Committee chaired by Shri Abhijit Sen, Member of the Planning Commission that analyzed annual trend growth rate in prices of sensitive commodities (food grains and sugar) in pre-futures and post-futures period, concluded that although inflation clearly increased post-futures in some sensitive commodities that have higher weight in consumer price indices, it is not possible to make any general claim that inflation accelerated more in commodities with futures trading.

Other factors particularly demand supply mismatches, degree of dependence on imports and international prices in these commodities etc. also tend to affect commodity prices.

(e) : Government has initiated several measures to control the prices and improve the availability of essential commodities such as allowing import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restriction on their exports, prescribing stock holding limits under Essential Commodities Act, allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) etc. The steps in operation by the Government to control the prices of essential commodities are enclosed at **Annexure-II**.

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**Annexure I**

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*28 FOR 26.02.2013 REGARDING PRICE RISE**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***2012-13*** | | | | | | |
| ***Department of Consumer Affairs (Price Monitoring Cell)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Month End Retail Prices of   Rice*** | | | | | | |
|  |  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *25* | *26* | *26* | *25* | *26* | *26* |
| *MUMBAI* | *26* | *25* | *25* | *26* | *26* | *26* |
| *KOLKATA* | *20* | *21* | *21* | *21* | *20* | *21* |
| *CHENNAI* | *29* | *31* | *31* | *32* | *34* | *34* |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Wheat*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *19* | *19* | *18* | *19* | *19* | *19* |
| *MUMBAI* | *24* | *25* | *24* | *24* | *28* | *28* |
| *KOLKATA* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* |
| *CHENNAI* | *25* | *25* | *27* | *28* | *28* | *26* |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Atta (Wheat)*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *20* | *20* | *19* | *21* | *20* | *20* |
| *MUMBAI* | *28* | *29* | *28* | *28* | *32* | *32* |
| *KOLKATA* | *19* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *21* | *21* |
| *CHENNAI* | *24* | *24* | *28* | *28* | *28* | *26* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Gram Dal*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *72* | *70* | *72* | *73* | *74* | *69* |
| *MUMBAI* | *76* | *82* | *78* | *78* | *85* | *85* |
| *KOLKATA* | *70* | *70* | *75* | *68* | *68* | *66* |
| *CHENNAI* | *74* | *72* | *72* | *72* | *66* | *65* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Tur/Arhar Dal*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *82* | *83* | *82* | *81* | *81* | *78* |
| *MUMBAI* | *80* | *85* | *80* | *84* | *80* | *80* |
| *KOLKATA* | *75* | *74* | *76* | *74* | *70* | *70* |
| *CHENNAI* | *78* | *74* | *76* | *80* | *76* | *74* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Urad Dal*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | | |
| *DELHI* | *75* | *75* | | *72* | | *72* | | *74* | | | | | *68* | | |
| *MUMBAI* | *82* | *83* | | *80* | | *74* | | *76* | | | | | *76* | | |
| *KOLKATA* | *65* | *60* | | *64* | | *60* | | *60* | | | | | *56* | | |
| *CHENNAI* | *65* | *65* | | *63* | | *63* | | *62* | | | | | *62* | | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Moong Dal*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | | | |
| *DELHI* | *75* | *76* | | *74* | | *77* | | *80* | | | | *77* | | | |
| *MUMBAI* | *80* | *84* | | *82* | | *82* | | *87* | | | | *87* | | | |
| *KOLKATA* | *80* | *80* | | *82* | | *80* | | *84* | | | | *80* | | | |
| *CHENNAI* | *76* | *76* | | *76* | | *76* | | *78* | | | | *78* | | | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Masoor Dal*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | | | |
| *DELHI* | *66* | *65* | | *63* | | *62* | | | *61* | | | *60* | | | |
| *MUMBAI* | *60* | *58* | | *56* | | *56* | | | *56* | | | *56* | | | |
| *KOLKATA* | *52* | *48* | | *50* | | *50* | | | *50* | | | *52* | | | |
| *CHENNAI* | *52* | *52* | | *52* | | *52* | | | *52* | | | *52* | | | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Sugar*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | | | |
| *DELHI* | *40* | *41* | | *41* | | *39* | | *40* | | | | *38* | | | |
| *SHIMLA* | *41* | *41* | | *NR* | | *42* | | *41* | | | | *40* | | | |
| *MUMBAI* | *42* | *40* | | *40* | | *40* | | *38* | | | | *38* | | | |
| *KOLKATA* | *40* | *41* | | *41* | | *40* | | *39* | | | | *38* | | | |
| *CHENNAI* | *40* | *39* | | *37* | | *38* | | *36* | | | | *35* | | | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Milk @*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | ***Unit: (Rs./Litre)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | | |
| *DELHI* | *29* | | *30* | | *30* | | *30* | | | *30* | | | | *30* | | |
| *MUMBAI* | *36* | | *36* | | *36* | | *36* | | | *36* | | | | *36* | | |
| *KOLKATA* | *28* | | *28* | | *28* | | *28* | | | *28* | | | | *28* | | |
| *CHENNAI* | *27* | | *27* | | *27* | | *27* | | | *27* | | | | *27* | | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Groundnut Oil (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | |
| *DELHI* | *166* | | *166* | | *162* | | *161* | | | | *162* | | | | *157* | |
| *MUMBAI* | *137* | | *129* | | *131* | | *140* | | | | *141* | | | | *141* | |
| *KOLKATA* | *140* | | *140* | | *137* | | *138* | | | | *160* | | | | *150* | |
| *CHENNAI* | *142* | | *142* | | *126* | | *136* | | | | *140* | | | | *144* | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Mustard Oil (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | |
| *DELHI* | *105* | *108* | *105* | *108* | | *108* | *108* | |
| *MUMBAI* | *102* | *95* | *91* | *91* | | *88* | *90* | |
| *KOLKATA* | *105* | *104* | *105* | *106* | | *106* | *106* | |
| *CHENNAI* | *108* | *121* | *121* | *121* | | *121* | *121* | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Vanaspati (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | |
| *DELHI* | *88* | *87* | *81* | *77* | *77* | | *76* | |
| *MUMBAI* | *97* | *88* | *88* | *90* | *79* | | *74* | |
| *KOLKATA* | *78* | *74* | *65* | *64* | *63* | | *55* | |
| *CHENNAI* | *87* | *88* | *86* | *86* | *88* | | *88* | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Soya Oil (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** | |
| *DELHI* | *95* | *97* | *94* | *94* | | *97* | *97* | |
| *MUMBAI* | *90* | *90* | *82* | *88* | | *84* | *81* | |
| *KOLKATA* | *88* | *86* | *86* | *86* | | *88* | *88* | |
| *CHENNAI* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | | *NR* | *NR* | |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Sunflower Oil (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *107* | *107* | *106* | *106* | *108* | | | *108* |
| *MUMBAI* | *91* | *95* | *96* | *96* | *96* | | | *96* |
| *KOLKATA* | *95* | *90* | *93* | *93* | *94* | | | *94* |
| *CHENNAI* | *92* | *93* | *91* | *93* | *93* | | | *93* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Palm Oil (Packed)*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | | *NR* | | *NR* |
| *MUMBAI* | *73* | *63* | *63* | *63* | | *62* | | *62* |
| *KOLKATA* | *70* | *68* | *56* | *56* | | *55* | | *55* |
| *CHENNAI* | *71* | *68* | *60* | *59* | | *56* | | *58* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Gur*** | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *43* | *41* | *40* | *38* | | *38* | | *37* |
| *MUMBAI* | *45* | *46* | *48* | *48* | | *47* | | *47* |
| *KOLKATA* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | *NR* | | *NR* | | *NR* |
| *CHENNAI* | *37* | *38* | *35* | *37* | | *37* | | *39* |

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| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Tea Loose*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *177* | *180* | *185* | *188* | *190* | *200* |
| *MUMBAI* | *220* | *260* | *270* | *280* | *280* | *280* |
| *KOLKATA* | *120* | *120* | *120* | *120* | *NR* | *120* |
| *CHENNAI* | *260* | *260* | *260* | *260* | *260* | *260* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Salt Pack (Iodised)*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* |
| *MUMBAI* | *15* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* |
| *KOLKATA* | *8* | *8* | *8* | *8* | *8* | *8* |
| *CHENNAI* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* | *16* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Potato*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *20* | *19* | *18* | *17* | *12* | *13* |
| *MUMBAI* | *23* | *18* | *17* | *19* | *19* | *22* |
| *KOLKATA* | *15* | *14* | *14* | *15* | *12* | *10* |
| *CHENNAI* | *21* | *20* | *22* | *20* | *20* | *18* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Onion*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *16* | *16* | *19* | *21* | *23* | *32* |
| *MUMBAI* | *14* | *14* | *19* | *18* | *18* | *29* |
| *KOLKATA* | *16* | *16* | *18* | *20* | *20* | *28* |
| *CHENNAI* | *13* | *12* | *18* | *20* | *20* | *23* |
| *Month End Retail Prices of* ***Tomato*** | | | | | | |
|  |  | ***Unit: (Rs./Kg.)*** | | | | |
| ***Centre*** | ***Aug. 31, 2012*** | ***Sep. 28, 2012*** | ***Oct. 31, 2012*** | ***Nov. 30, 2012*** | ***Dec. 31, 2012*** | ***Jan. 31, 2013*** |
| *DELHI* | *27* | *21* | *20* | *18* | *14* | *15* |
| *MUMBAI* | *20* | *16* | *10* | *16* | *17* | *16* |
| *KOLKATA* | *30* | *30* | *30* | *20* | *16* | *10* |
| *CHENNAI* | *21* | *10* | *20* | *20* | *16* | *15* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source : State Civil Supplies Department. NR – Not Reported

**Annexure II**

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*28 FOR 26.02.2013 REGARDING PRICE RISE**

**The Steps in operation by the Government to contain price rise in essential commodities inter-alia include the following:**

* Reduced import duties to zero – for wheat, onion and pulses and to 7.5% for refined & hydrogenated oils & vegetable oils.
* The import duty on sugar has beens kept at 10%.
* Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil, forest based oil and edible oils in blended consumer packs upto 5 kg with a Minimum Export Price of USD 1500 per MT) and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses and lentils up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per annum).
* Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oilseeds for a period upto 30.9.2013 and in respect of paddy and rice upto 30.11.2013.
* Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs 2 per kg for AAY) since 2002.
* Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad, tur, guar gum and guar seed.
* To ensure adequate availability of sugar for the households covered under TPDS, the levy obligation on sugar factories was restored to 10%.
* Government allocated rice and wheat under OMSS Scheme.
* The scheme for distribution of subsidized imported pulses through PDS in a varied form with a subsidy element of Rs. 20/- per Kg for the residual part of the current year is presently under operation. The scheme for subsidized imported edible oils has been extended upto 30.9.2013 with subsidy of Rs.15/- per Kg for import of upto 10 lakh tonnes of edible oils for this period.

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