

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5130
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

INFLATION RATES OF FOOD COMMODITIES

5130. ADV GOWAAL KAGADA PADAVI:

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the inflation rate of essential food commodities during each of the last three years;
- (b) the measures taken to control food price volatility particularly for pulses, wheat and edible oils;
- (c) whether any new mechanisms have been introduced to improve supply chain efficiency and prevent hoarding; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) : Food inflation measured by year-on-year percentage variation in Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) during last three years as published by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is given at **Annexure**.

(b) : Government keeps a close watch on the production and availability of essential commodities through regular reviews by the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC). The Committee reviews, on regular basis, the situation of prices and price trends of essential agri-horticulture commodities and suggests measures to enhance availability through increased domestic production and through imports.

In order to tackle the volatility in prices, government maintains buffer stocks of pulses and onion for market interventions through calibrated and targeted release to moderate the prices in the market. Part of the stock of pulses from the buffer are converted to dals for retail sale to the consumers at affordable prices under the Bharat Dal brand. Similarly, atta and rice are distributed to retail consumers under Bharat brand at subsidized prices. To manage the overall food security and to prevent hoarding and unscrupulous speculation, Government imposed stock limits on wheat till 31st March 2025. In addition, Government has, since April, 2024, allocated 30 lakh tonnes of wheat for sale in open market under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) to control wheat prices. The international and domestic prices of edible oils are closely monitored for taking necessary policy interventions to keep the prices affordable while keeping in mind the interest of domestic farmers and edible oil industry. To augment domestic availability of pulses and control price volatility, Government allowed import of Tur and Urad under 'Free' category till 31st March, 2026. Duty free import of Chana has been allowed till 31st March, 2025 to augment domestic availability and control prices. Further, to augment the overall availability of pulses, duty free import of Yellow Peas has also been allowed till 31st May, 2025. In order to manage the overall food security of the country and to support the needs of the neighbouring and other vulnerable countries, Government has amended the export policy of wheat from 'free' to 'prohibited' category on 13th May 2022 for restricting export of Indian Durum Wheat.

(c) & (d) : Department of Consumer Affairs developed stock disclosure portal to monitor the stock of pulses with various entities and discourage hoarding. State Governments have been advised to ensure disclosure of stocks by various entities like traders, dealers, importers, millers, stockists and big chain retailers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1995 through online stock disclosure portal. Similarly, Department of Food and Public Distribution has advised State Governments to ensure the disclosure of stock in respect of wheat by various entities.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5130 FOR 02.04.2025 REGARDING INFLATION RATES OF FOOD COMMODITIES.

Food inflation rate measured by year-on-year percentage variation in Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI)

(in percentage)

Month	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
April	8.31	3.84	8.70
May	7.97	2.96	8.69
June	7.75	4.55	9.36
July	6.69	11.51	5.42
August	7.62	9.94	5.66
September	8.60	6.62	9.24
October	7.01	6.61	10.87
November	4.67	8.70	9.04
December	4.19	9.53	8.39
January	6.00	8.30	6.02
February	5.95	8.66	3.75
March	4.79	8.52	

Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
