

## CONCEPT AND DEFINITIONS

### Essential Commodities

The commodities used by middle income group and lower middle class people in daily routine are called essential commodities.

### Agricultural Commodities

All commodities which are grown on the agricultural land by the farmers are called Agricultural commodities.

### Concept of Retail price

**Retail price is the price which the ultimate consumer pays when buying from a retailer**

### Monitoring of Retail prices

The objective of the scheme for monitoring retail prices of essential commodities is to supply the data on retail prices of essential commodities regularly, every weekend to watch supply and price position of essential commodities which enter into daily consumption of the common people.

The retail prices of essential commodities are collected in respect of 45 food items i.e. rice, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, atta, suji, maida, pulses, edible oils, meat, egg, fish, milk, butter, ghee, spices, vegetable & fruits & other foods like sugar, gur, tea, coffee, biscuit & bread etc. and 43 non-food items like kerosene oil, diesel oil, textiles, soaps, matches, medicines, paper and stationery, cycle tyres & tubes, utensils, cement etc. Data is received from 87 centres, all over India .

The retail prices of agricultural commodities are collected in respect of 65 commodities like pork, beef, eggs, poultry, almond, onion, walnut, linseed, orange, banana etc, and the data is collected from 454 reporting centres from various parts of the country. The prices of agricultural commodities are published in the annual publication "Agricultural Prices in India".

Price data are collected through State Government agencies, Market Intelligence units, State Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC), District Supply Offices, Agriculture Marketing and Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti etc.

There are proformae to collect retail prices of essential commodities from selected centres. This information is collected once a week. The weekly and monthly price returns are received by post and 52 copies of proformae for food items & 20 copies proformae for non-food items are sent to each reporting centre.

#### Procedure For Missing Information

If the data is not received timely reminders are sent fortnightly.

#### Clarification for incorrect data

If the data received, varies from more than 10% , clarification is sought from the agencies again who supplied the data .

If the data is not received from reporting centres in standard unit then it is indicated in units like 50 grams,100grams,200grams,500grams,1 Kg , Rs. per piece,Rs per Litre,Rs. per Metre,Bag of 50 kg. etc.

#### Dessemination of data for Bulletin & Publication

“Bulletin of Food Items” is prepared every week and “Bulletin of Non-Food items” is prepared on last week of every Month.

#### Annual Publication

Annual Publication is prepared every year in respect of retail prices of essential and agricultural commodities, to facilitate the users. It also helps to prepare price index .

#### Abbreviation

N.A= Not Available  
N.T=No Transaction  
N.Q=Not Quoted  
N.R.S=No reasons Stated  
N.S=No Stock  
M.C=Market closed  
R.G=Reason Given  
@=Change in Variety  
U= price under Variation  
P=Previous week