



Government of Kerala

# PRICE BULLETIN

March 2019

PRICES DIVISION  
Department of Economics and Statistics  
2019

## PREFACE

*Price collection is one of the major items of work undertaken by the Department of Economics and Statistics. The importance and usefulness of the information pertaining to the price movements has much significance in the context of a growing economy. This Department has been collecting different types of prices viz. Farm price, Market price, etc. (both Wholesale and Retail). These prices are being widely used for various purposes such as for the preparation of Indices, to provide compensation to Farmers and for tendering consumable articles for Govt. Institutions. Among the Retail prices, the statement of daily prices of fifty essential commodities being collected on daily basis from District Headquarters assume significance, because it is being forwarded daily to the office of the Chief Minister and Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, Minister for Agriculture, Chief Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Secretary, Planning secretary,, Department of Civil supplies, Reserve Bank of India, Consumerfed etc. In addition to the daily prices, weekly prices are also being collected every Friday.*

*From January 2004 onwards a publication titled "PRICE BULLETIN" is being prepared and published monthly incorporating the Retail prices of main essential commodities under 8 major groups. Group wise analysis has been made with reference to current month, previous month and the corresponding month of the previous year with suitable pictorial representations.*

*This publication is being prepared and published by Prices Division under the supervision of **Sri.K.Damodaran, Additional Director (Prices)**. I appreciate the work done by **Smt.Maya.S (Assistant Director)**, **Smt.Sarulatha.R.S (Research Officer)**, **Sri.Sooraj Cheruthottathil (Statistical Assistant Grade I)** and all the Price Reporters and Price Supervisors in the Districts for preparing such a worthy publication.*

*Suggestions if any for improving the publication is solicited.*

Thiruvananthapuram  
08-04-2019

Sd/-  
V.RAMACHANDRAN  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

## **REVIEW ON RETAIL PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES**

**MARCH 2019**

### **INTRODUCTION**

*This bulletin reflects the average retail prices of essential commodities for the month of March 2019. A mixed trend has been seen in the retail prices under report when compared with that of the last month as well as the corresponding month of previous year. Statement showing the monthly average retail prices of essential commodities for the month of March of the previous year 2018, previous month February 2019 and current month of March 2019 are attached and the percentage of variation over the previous month and the current month of the previous year are attached. GroupWise analysis has been made with reference to the current month, the previous month and the corresponding month of the previous year with suitable pictorial representation.*

## 1. RICE

### Comparison of state average Retail prices of different varieties of Rice

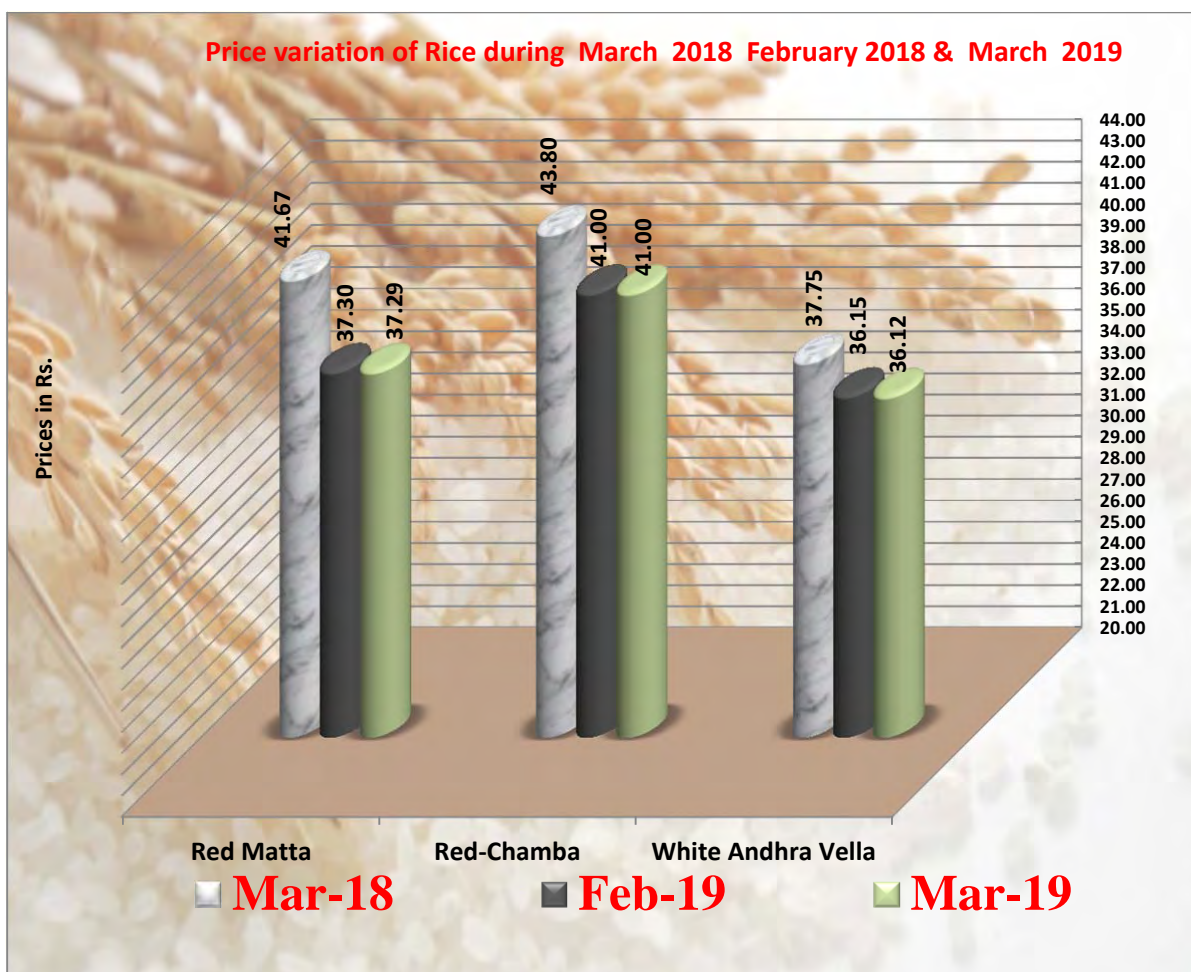
During this period downward trend continued in the state average retail price of Rice when compared with the prices of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The State average retail prices of Red Matta and White Andhra Vella showed a slight decrease and Red Chamba remains stable when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail prices of all items of Rice showed a downward trend up to 10.50%. The following table and diagram represent the prices and percentage of variation over month and year of Rice.

Table-1

Sl.No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
1	Red - Matta	Kg	41.67	37.30	37.29	-0.01	-10.50
2	Red - Chamba	Kg	43.80	41.00	41.00	0.00	-6.39
3	White - Andra Vella	Kg	37.75	36.15	36.12	-0.08	-4.31

Graph-1



## 2. PULSES

### Comparison of state average Retail prices of Pulses.

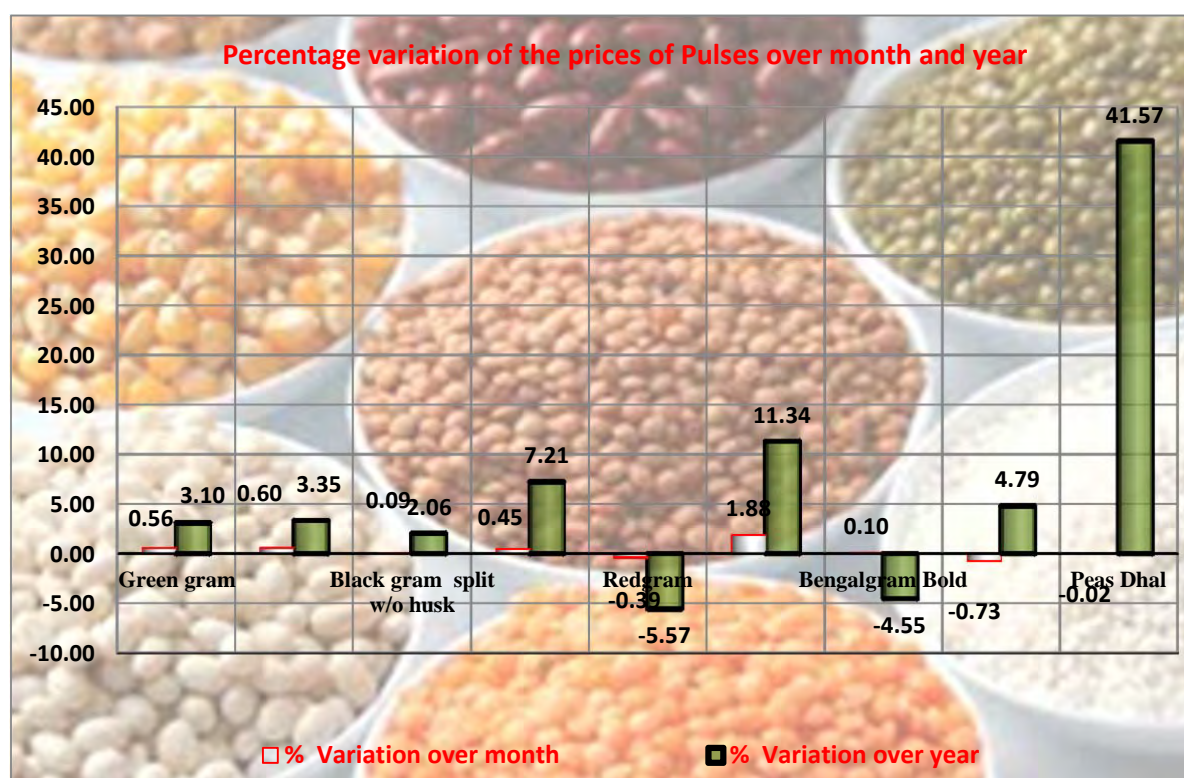
During this period a mixed trend was observed in the state average retail price of Pulses when compared with the prices of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The State average retail price of all items of Pulses except Redgram, Bengalgram Small and Peas Dhall showed an upward trend up to 1.88% when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the price of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail price of all items of pulses except Redgram and Bengalgram Bold showed an upward trend up to 41.57%. Notable increase was seen in the price of Peas Dhall (41.57%) when compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year. The following table and diagram represent the prices and percentage of variation over month and year of pulses.

Table-2

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
1	Green gram	Kg	86.34	88.52	89.01	0.56	3.10
2	Green gram dhall	Kg	88.54	90.97	91.51	0.60	3.35
3	Black gram split w/o husk	Kg	87.09	88.80	88.88	0.09	2.06
4	Black gram split with husk	Kg	83.38	89.00	89.40	0.45	7.21
5	Redgram	Kg	73.32	69.50	69.23	-0.39	-5.57
6	Dhall(Tur)	Kg	81.54	89.11	90.79	1.88	11.34
7	Bengalgram Bold	Kg	80.26	76.54	76.61	0.10	-4.55
8	Bengalgram Small	Kg	68.21	72.00	71.48	-0.73	4.79
9	Peas Dhall	Kg	47.24	66.90	66.88	-0.02	41.57

Graph – 2



### 3. OTHER FOOD ITEMS

#### Comparison of state average Retail prices of other food items.

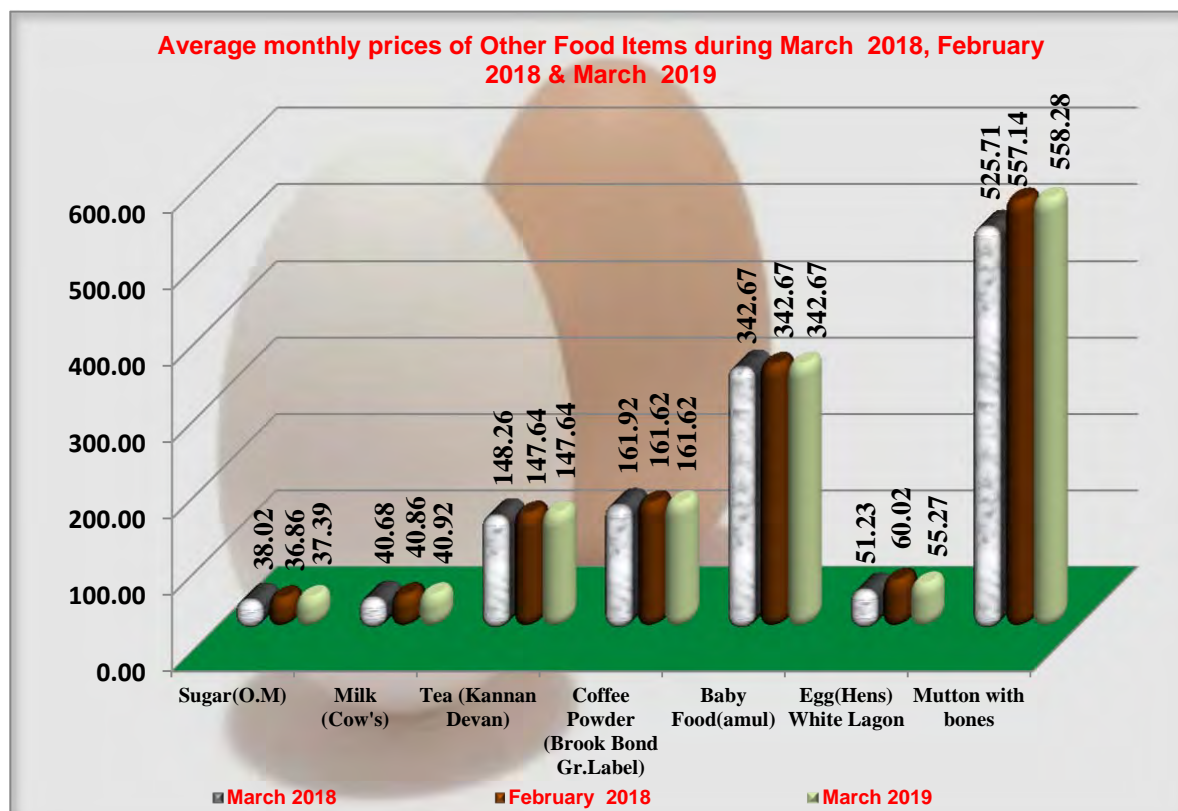
During this period a mixed trend was noticed in the state average retail price of other food items when compared with the prices of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The State average retail prices of Egg (Hens) White Lagon declined by 7.90% and the price of Tea (Kannan Devan) , Coffee Powder(Brook Bond Gr.Lable) and Baby Food(Amul) remain unchanged while the price of all other items of other food items showed an upward trend up to 1.44% when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail price of Sugar (O.M), Tea (Kannan Devan) and Coffee Powder (Brook Bond Gr.Lable) showed a downward trend up to 1.65% and Baby Food (Amul) showed no change while the price of all other items of other food items showed an upward trend up to 7.90% when compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year.

**Table-3**

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
1	Sugar(O.M)	Kg.	38.02	36.86	37.39	1.44	-1.65
2	Milk (Cow's)	Ltr.	40.68	40.86	40.92	0.14	0.59
3	Tea (Kannan Devan)	500gms	148.26	147.64	147.64	0.00	-0.42
4	Coffee Powder (Brooke Bond Gr.Label)	500gms	161.92	161.62	161.62	0.00	-0.19
5	Baby Food (Amul)	Kg	342.67	342.67	342.67	0.00	0.00
6	Egg(Hens) White Lagon	Dozen	51.23	60.02	55.27	-7.90	7.90
7	Mutton with bones	Kg	525.71	557.14	558.28	0.21	6.20

**Graph-3**



## 4. OIL AND OILSEEDS

### Comparison of state average Retail prices of Oil and oilseeds.

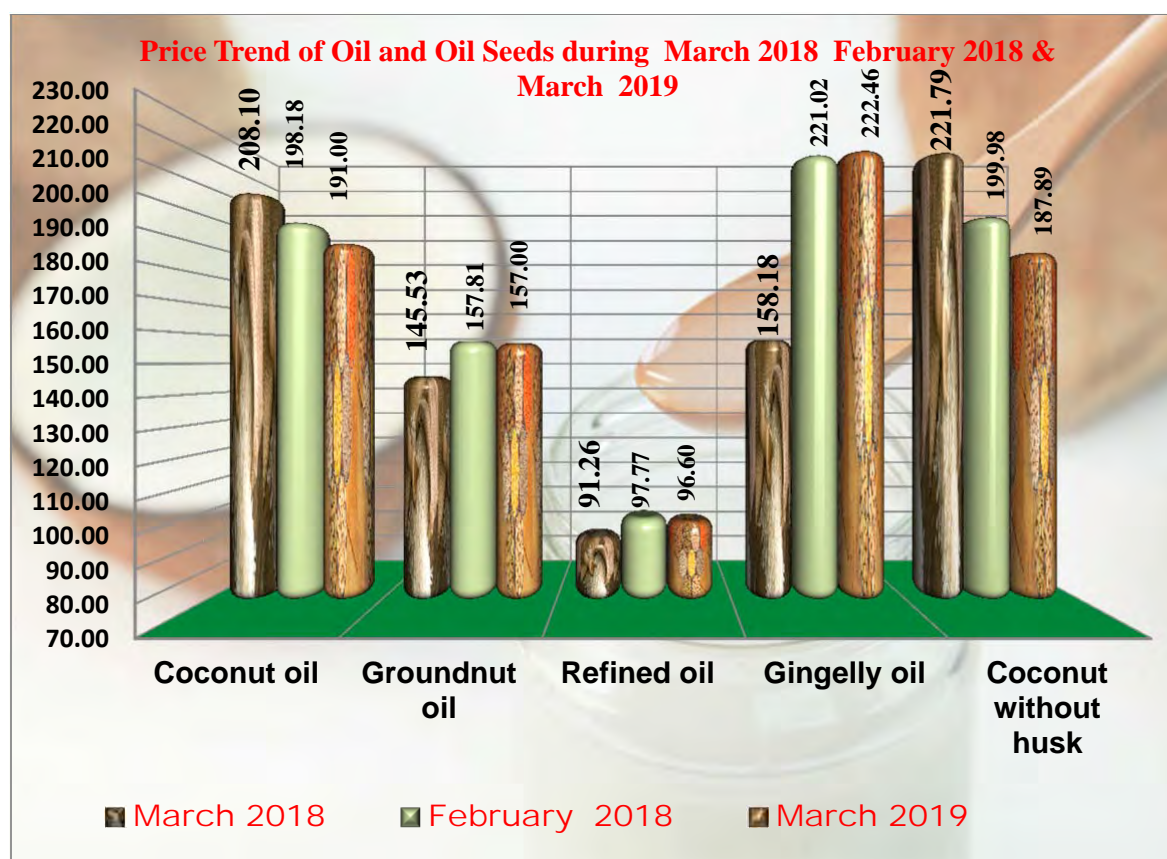
During this period a mixed trend was observed in the state average retail price of oil and oil seeds when compared with the prices of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The state average retail price of all items of oil and oil seeds except Gingelly oil showed a downward trend up to 6.04% when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail price of all items of oil and oil seeds except Coconut Oil and Coconut without husk showed an upward trend up to 40.64%. Notable increase was seen in the price of Gingelly oil (40.64%) when compared with the price of the corresponding month of the previous year.

Table-4

Sl. No	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
1	Coconut oil	Ltr.	208.10	198.18	191.00	-3.62	-8.22
2	Groundnut oil	Ltr.	145.53	157.81	157.00	-0.51	7.88
3	Refined oil	Ltr.	91.26	97.77	96.60	-1.19	5.86
4	Gingelly oil	Ltr.	158.18	221.02	222.46	0.65	40.64
5	Coconut without husk	10 nos	221.79	199.98	187.89	-6.04	-15.28

Graph-4



## 5. SPICES AND CONDIMENTS

### Comparison of state Average Retail prices of Spices and Condiments:

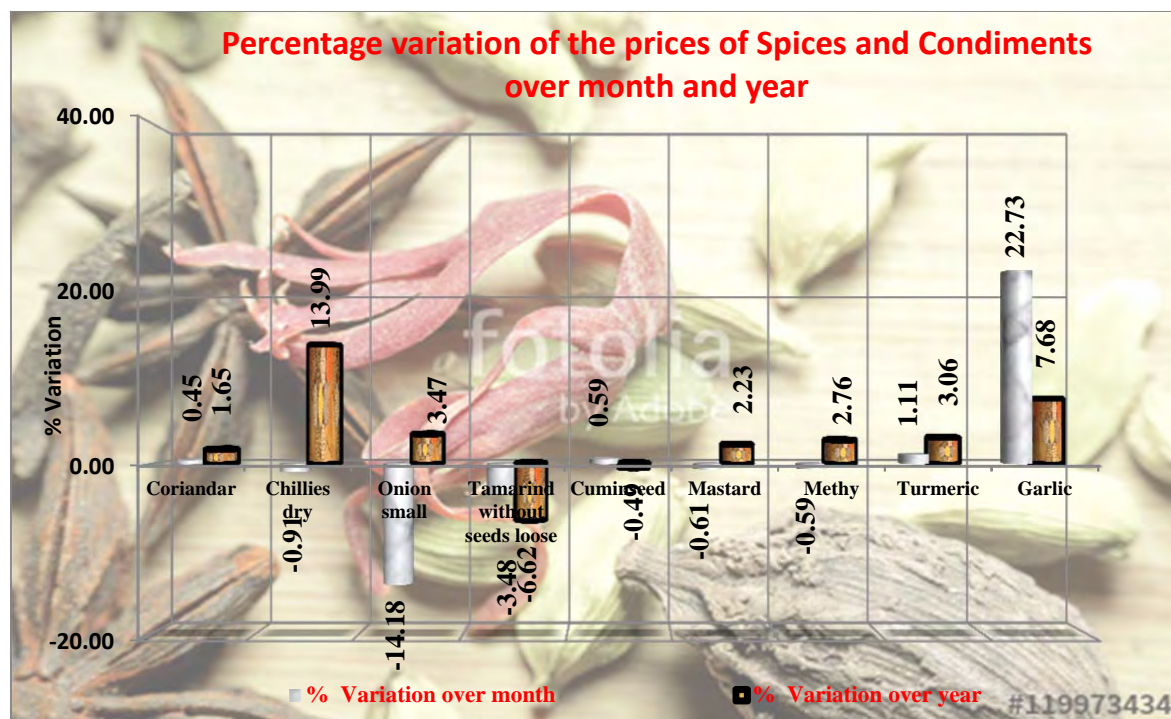
During this period a mixed trend was observed in the State average retail price of spices and condiments when compared with the price of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The state average retail price of Coriander, Cuminseed, Turmeric and Garlic showed an upward trend up to 22.73% while the prices of all other items of Spices and Condiments showed a downward trend up to 14.18% when compared with the price of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail price of Tamarind without seeds loose and Cuminseed showed a downward trend up to 6.62% while the prices of all other items of Spices and Condiments showed an upward trend up to 13.99% when compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year. The following table and diagram represent the prices and percentage of variation over month and year of pulses.

Table-5

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over previous month	Over previous Year
1	Coriander	Kg.	90.08	91.16	91.57	0.45	1.65
2	Chilies dry	Kg.	111.19	127.91	126.74	-0.91	13.99
3	Onion small	Kg.	34.04	41.04	35.22	-14.18	3.47
4	Tamarind without seeds loose	Kg.	164.00	158.66	153.14	-3.48	-6.62
5	Cuminseed	100gm	30.02	29.70	29.87	0.59	-0.49
6	Mustard	100gm	8.95	9.21	9.15	-0.61	2.23
7	Methy	100gm	9.19	9.50	9.44	-0.59	2.76
8	Turmeric	100gm	18.25	18.60	18.81	1.11	3.06
9	Garlic	100gm	7.74	6.79	8.33	22.73	7.68

Graph 5





## 6. TUBERS

### Comparison of state Average Retail prices of Tubers

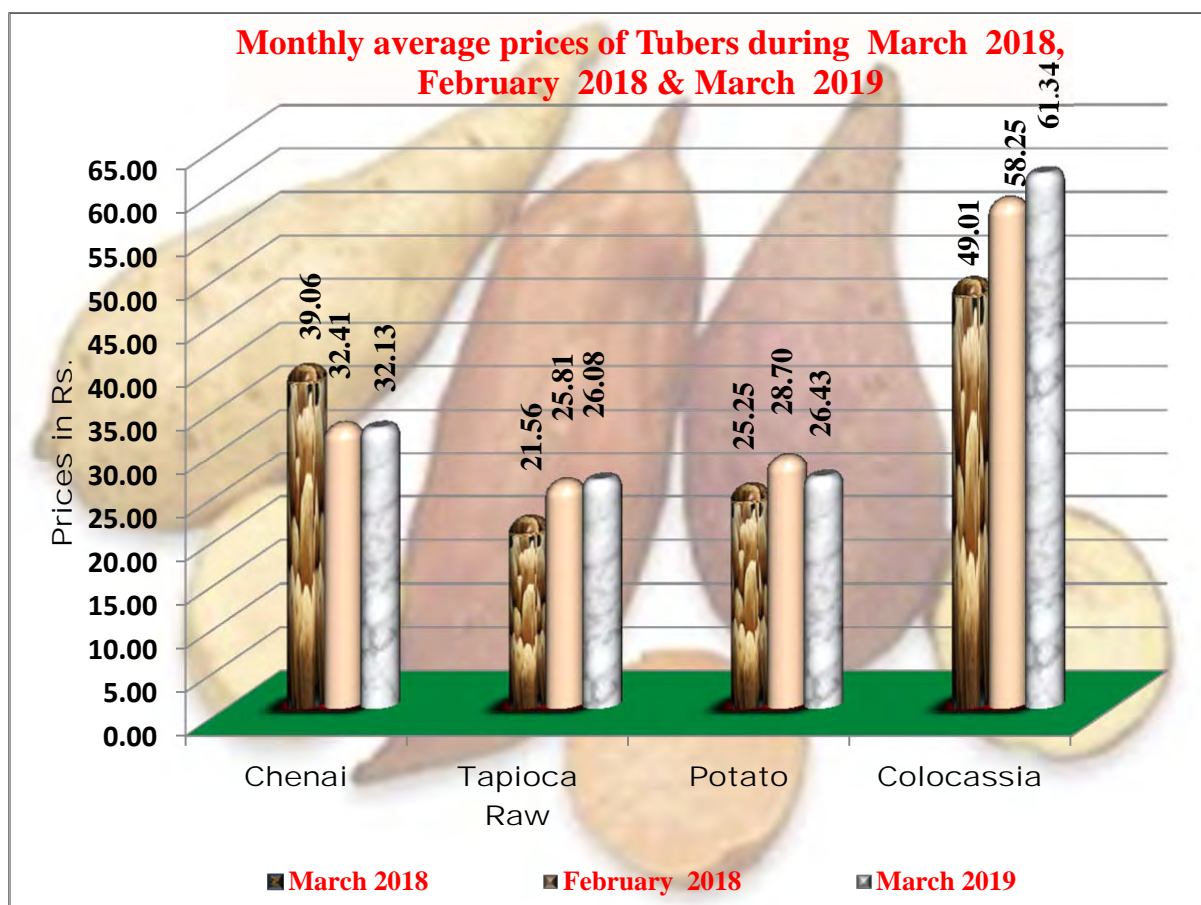
During this period a mixed trend was observed in the State average retail price of tubers when compared with the prices of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The state average retail prices of all items of Tubers except Tapioca Raw and Colocassia showed a downward trend up to 7.91% when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the State average retail prices of all items of Tubers except Chennai showed an upward trend up to 25.16%. Notable increase was seen in the price of Colocassia (25.16%) when compared with the price of the corresponding month of the previous year.

**Table-6**

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over previous month	Over previous Year
1	Chennai	Kg.	39.06	32.41	32.13	-0.86	-17.75
2	Tapioca Raw	Kg.	21.56	25.81	26.08	1.05	20.97
3	Potato	Kg.	25.25	28.70	26.43	-7.91	4.67
4	Colocassia	Kg.	49.01	58.25	61.34	5.31	25.16

**Graph 6**



## 7. VEGETABLES

### Comparison of state average Retail prices of Vegetables.

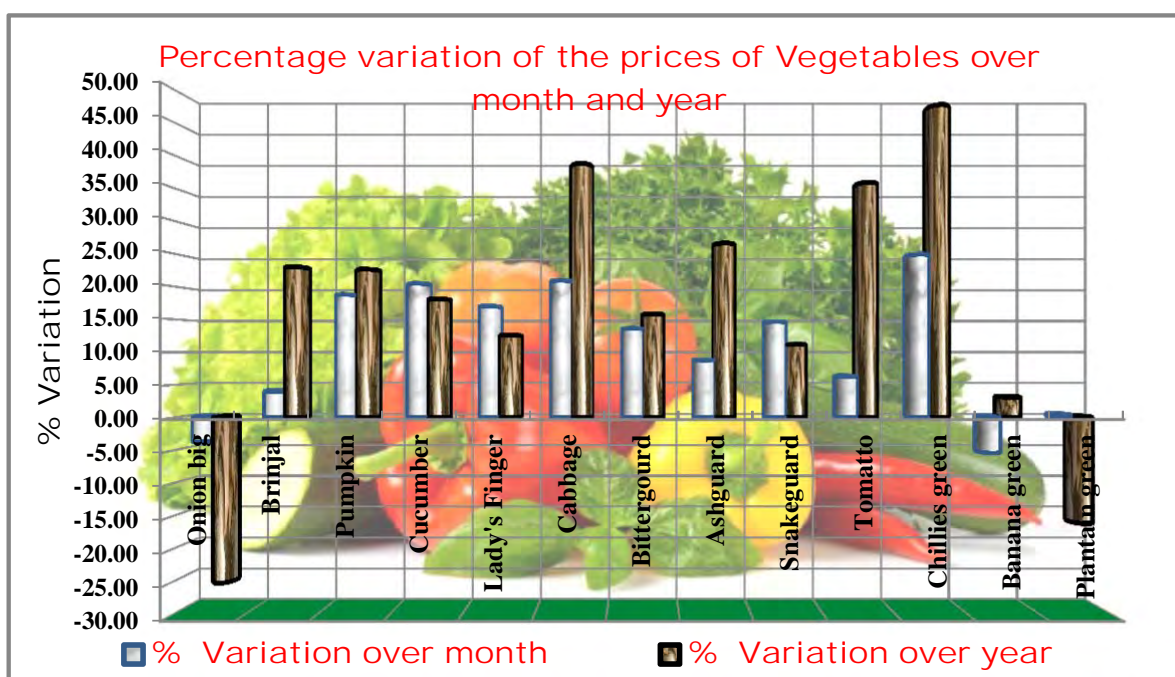
A mixed trend was observed during the month in the State average retail price of vegetables when compared with that of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The state average retail prices of all items of Vegetables except Onion big and Banana green showed an upward trend up to 24.87% when compared with the prices of the previous month. Notable increase was seen in the price of Chillies green (24.87%) and Cabbage (20.89%) when compared with the prices of the previous month.

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year the state average retail price of Onion big and Plantain green showed a downward trend up to 25.20% while the prices of all other items of Vegetables showed an upward trend up to 47.60%. Notable increase was seen in the price of Chillies green (47.60%) and Cabbage (38.67%) when compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year. The following table and diagram represents the prices and percentage of variation over month and year of Vegetables.

Table-7

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over previous month	Over previous Year
1	Onion big	Kg.	20.97	16.29	15.68	-3.69	-25.20
2	Brinjal	Kg.	26.88	31.79	33.06	4.01	22.97
3	Pumpkin	Kg.	17.45	18.02	21.40	18.76	22.60
4	Cucumber	Kg.	20.89	20.48	24.67	20.44	18.07
5	Lady's Finger	Kg.	39.37	37.88	44.30	16.97	12.54
6	Cabbage	Kg	23.35	26.79	32.38	20.89	38.67
7	Bitter gourd	Kg.	44.97	45.84	52.07	13.58	15.77
8	Ash gourd	Kg.	18.85	21.93	23.86	8.80	26.55
9	Snake gourd	Kg.	30.85	29.91	34.29	14.63	11.14
10	Tomatto	Kg.	18.11	23.15	24.60	6.29	35.81
11	Chillies green	100gm	4.05	4.79	5.98	24.87	47.60
12	Banana green	Kg.	40.41	44.04	41.66	-5.40	3.08
13	Plantain green	Kg.	38.59	32.20	32.34	0.46	-16.18

Graph-7



## 8. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

### Comparison of state Average Retail prices of miscellaneous items

A mixed trend was observed during the month in the State average retail price of miscellaneous when compared with that of the previous month as well as the corresponding month of the previous year. The state average retail prices of Washing Soda showed a nominal decrease when compared with the prices of the previous month and the state average retail price of Tobacco, Toilet Soap Lux, Toothpaste(Colgate), Electric Bulb(Philips) and Cement- Sankar (Ord.Paper Bag) showed an upward trend up to 1.19% while the prices of all other items of miscellaneous remain unchanged when compared with the prices of the previous month. .

When compared with the prices of the corresponding month of the previous year all items of miscellaneous except Washing Soda, Razor Blade(Topaz) Crocin and Firewood (Local Split)) showed an upward trend up to 8.01%. Notable decrease was seen in the price of Crocin (18.29%) when compared with the price of the corresponding month of the previous year..

Table-8

Sl.No	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage Of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over previous month	Over previous Year
1	Tobacco	Kg.	196.50	196.43	197.07	0.33	0.29
2	Mundu Mull	Each	140.17	142.25	142.25	0.00	1.49
3	Washing Soda	Kg.	47.35	45.17	45.08	-0.19	-4.80
4	Washing Soap (501)	1/2 Bar	7.20	0.00			
5	Toilet Soap - Lux	100 gm	27.80	29.38	29.44	0.23	5.90
6	Toothpaste - Colgate	100 gm	47.07	48.38	48.61	0.49	3.28
7	Razor Blade(Topaz)	5 nos	8.58	8.44	8.44	0.00	-1.63
8	Crocin	2 tabs	2.46	2.01	2.01	0.00	-18.29
9	Electric Bulb(Philips)	40W	14.69	14.69	14.74	0.33	0.33
10	Torch Battery (Eveready)	Each	18.90	19.07	19.07	0.00	0.88
11	Paper	24Sheet	16.91	17.65	17.65	0.00	4.35
12	Firewood( Local Split)	Quintal	508.57	495.00	495.00	0.00	-2.67
13	Cement - Sankar (Ord.Paper Bag)	Packet	382.13	407.86	412.72	1.19	8.01

Graph 8



## ANNEXURE

Statement Showing The State Average Retail Prices Of Essential Commodities							
for The month of March 2019							
Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
(1)	(2)	(3)				(7)	(8)
	<b>A. RICE - Open Market</b>						
1	Red - Matta	Kg	41.67	37.30	37.29	-0.01	-10.50
2	Red - Chamba	Kg	43.80	41.00	41.00	0.00	-6.39
3	White - Andra Vella	Kg	37.75	36.15	36.12	-0.08	-4.31
	<b>B. PULSES</b>						
1	Green gram	Kg	86.34	88.52	89.01	0.56	3.10
2	Green gram dhal	Kg	88.54	90.97	91.51	0.60	3.35
3	Black gram split w/o husk	Kg	87.09	88.80	88.88	0.09	2.06
4	Black gram split with husk	Kg	83.38	89.00	89.40	0.45	7.21
5	Redgram	Kg	73.32	69.50	69.23	-0.39	-5.57
6	Dhal(Tur)	Kg	81.54	89.11	90.79	1.88	11.34
7	Bengalgram Bold	Kg	80.26	76.54	76.61	0.10	-4.55
8	Bengalgram Small	Kg	68.21	72.00	71.48	-0.73	4.79
9	Peas Dhal	Kg	47.24	66.90	66.88	-0.02	41.57
	<b>C. OTHER FOOD ITEMS</b>						
1	Sugar(O.M)	Kg.	38.02	36.86	37.39	1.44	-1.65
2	Milk (Cow's)	Ltr.	40.68	40.86	40.92	0.14	0.59
3	Tea (Kannan Devan)	500gms	148.26	147.64	147.64	0.00	-0.42
4	Coffee Powder (Brook Bond Gr.Label)	500gms	161.92	161.62	161.62	0.00	-0.19
5	Baby Food(amul)	Kg	342.67	342.67	342.67	0.00	0.00
6	Egg(Hens) White Lagon	Dozen	51.23	60.02	55.27	-7.90	7.90
7	Mutton with bones	Kg	525.71	557.14	558.28	0.21	6.20
	<b>D. OIL AND OIL SEEDS</b>						
1	Coconut oil	Ltr.	208.10	198.18	191.00	-3.62	-8.22
2	Groundnut oil	Ltr.	145.53	157.81	157.00	-0.51	7.88
3	Refined oil	Ltr.	91.26	97.77	96.60	-1.19	5.86
4	Gingelly oil	Ltr.	158.18	221.02	222.46	0.65	40.64
5	Coconut without husk	10 nos	221.79	199.98	187.89	-6.04	-15.28
	<b>E. SPICES AND CONDIMENTS</b>						
1	Coriander	Kg.	90.08	91.16	91.57	0.45	1.65
2	Chilies dry	Kg.	111.19	127.91	126.74	-0.91	13.99
3	Onion small	Kg.	34.04	41.04	35.22	-14.18	3.47
4	Tamarind without seeds loose	Kg.	164.00	158.66	153.14	-3.48	-6.62
5	Cuminseed	100gm	30.02	29.70	29.87	0.59	-0.49
6	Mustard	100gm	8.95	9.21	9.15	-0.61	2.23
7	Methy	100gm	9.19	9.50	9.44	-0.59	2.76
8	Turmeric	100gm	18.25	18.60	18.81	1.11	3.06
9	Garlic	100gm	7.74	6.79	8.33	22.73	7.68

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation	
			March 2018	February 2019	March 2019	Over month	Over year
	<b>F. TUBERS</b>						
1	Chenai	Kg.	39.06	32.41	32.13	-0.86	-17.75
2	Tapioca Raw	Kg.	21.56	25.81	26.08	1.05	20.97
3	Potato	Kg.	25.25	28.70	26.43	-7.91	4.67
4	Colocassia	Kg.	49.01	58.25	61.34	5.31	25.16
	<b>G. VEGETABLES</b>						
1	Onion big	Kg.	20.97	16.29	15.68	-3.69	-25.20
2	Brinjal	Kg.	26.88	31.79	33.06	4.01	22.97
3	Pumpkin	Kg.	17.45	18.02	21.40	18.76	22.60
4	Cucumber	Kg.	20.89	20.48	24.67	20.44	18.07
5	Lady's Finger	Kg.	39.37	37.88	44.30	16.97	12.54
6	Cabbage	Kg	23.35	26.79	32.38	20.89	38.67
7	Bitter gourd	Kg.	44.97	45.84	52.07	13.58	15.77
8	Ash gourd	Kg.	18.85	21.93	23.86	8.80	26.55
9	Snake gourd	Kg.	30.85	29.91	34.29	14.63	11.14
10	Tomato	Kg.	18.11	23.15	24.60	6.29	35.81
11	Chilies green	100gm	4.05	4.79	5.98	24.87	47.60
12	Banana green	Kg.	40.41	44.04	41.66	-5.40	3.08
13	Plantain green	Kg.	38.59	32.20	32.34	0.46	-16.18
	<b>H. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS</b>						
1	Tobacco	Kg.	196.50	196.43	197.07	0.33	0.29
2	Mundu Mull	Each	140.17	142.25	142.25	0.00	1.49
3	Washing Soda	Kg.	47.35	45.17	45.08	-0.19	-4.80
4	Washing Soap (501)	1/2 Bar	7.20	0.00			
5	Toilet Soap - Lux	100 gm	27.80	29.38	29.44	0.23	5.90
6	Toothpaste - Colgate	100 gm	47.07	48.38	48.61	0.49	3.28
7	Razor Blade(Topaz)	5 Nos	8.58	8.44	8.44	0.00	-1.63
8	Crocin	2 tabs	2.46	2.01	2.01	0.00	-18.29
9	Electric Bulb(Philips)	40W	14.69	14.69	14.74	0.33	0.33
10	Torch Battery(Eveready)	Each	18.90	19.07	19.07	0.00	0.88
11	Paper	24 Sheets	16.91	17.65	17.65	0.00	4.35
12	Firewood( Local Split)	Quintal	508.57	495.00	495.00	0.00	-2.67
13	Cement - Sankar (Ord.Paper Bag)	Packet	382.13	407.86	412.72	1.19	8.01