

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISER**

**Index Numbers of Wholesale Price in India (Base: 2011-12=100)  
Review for the month of March, 2019**

The official Wholesale Price Index for ‘All Commodities’ (Base: 2011-12=100) for the month of March, 2019 rose by 0.4 percent to 120.0 (provisional) from 119.5 (provisional) for the previous month.

**INFLATION**

The annual rate of inflation, based on monthly WPI, stood at 3.18% (provisional) for the month of March, 2019 (over March, 2018) as compared to 2.93% (provisional) for the previous month and 2.74% during the corresponding month of the previous year. Build up inflation rate in the financial year so far was 3.18% compared to a build up rate of 2.74% in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Inflation for important commodities / commodity groups is indicated in Annex-1 and Annex-II.  
The movement of the index for the various commodity groups is summarized below:-

**PRIMARY ARTICLES (Weight 22.62%)**

The index for this major group rose by 0.4 percent to 134.7 (provisional) from 134.2 (provisional) for the previous month. The groups and items which showed variations during the month are as follows:-

The index for ‘Food Articles’ group rose by 0.9 percent to 145.1 (provisional) from 143.8 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of peas/chawali (7%), fruits & vegetables (6%), maize and jowar (3% each), bajra (2%) and masur (1%). However, the price of fish-marine (6%), egg (5%), gram (3%), mutton, urad and condiments & spices (2% each) and rajma, ragi, wheat, arhar and poultry chicken (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Non-Food Articles’ group declined by 2.6 percent to 123.5 (provisional) from 126.8 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of industrial wood (16%), raw silk (7%), sunflower (4%), rape & mustard seed (3%), gingelly seed and safflower (kardi seed) (2% each) and soyabean, floriculture, copra (coconut) and coir fibre (1% each). However, the price of niger seed (15%), raw rubber and raw cotton (4% each), raw wool (2%) and groundnut seed, fodder, castor seed, mesta, raw jute, linseed and hides (raw) (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Minerals’ group declined by 1.9 percent to 136.7 (provisional) from 139.3 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of manganese ore and iron ore (8% each), sillimanite (7%), limestone and chromite (2% each) and lead concentrate and zinc concentrate (1% each). However, the price of garnet (12%) and copper concentrate (1%) moved up.

The index for ‘Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas’ group rose by 3.3 percent to 87.6 (provisional) from 84.8 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of crude petroleum (6%). However, the price of natural gas (2%) declined.

**FUEL & POWER (Weight 13.15%)**

The index for this major group rose by 2.3 percent to 103.3 (provisional) from 101.0 (provisional) for the previous month. The groups and items which showed variations during the month are as follows:-

The index for ‘Mineral Oils’ group rose by 4.1 percent to 95.0 (provisional) from 91.3 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of ATF, naphtha and furnace oil (9% each), LPG (6%), kerosene (5%), petrol (4%), petroleum coke (3%), HSD (2%) and bitumen (1%).

## **MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS (Weight 64.23%)**

The index for this major group rose by 0.2 percent to 118.3 (provisional) from 118.1 (provisional) for the previous month. The groups and items which showed variations during the month are as follows:-

The index for ‘Manufacture of Food Products’ group declined by 0.2 percent to 128.5 (provisional) from 128.7 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of manufacture of macaroni, noodles, couscous & similar farinaceous products (5%), copra oil (4%), processing & preserving of fish, crustaceans & molluscs & products thereof and rice bran oil (3% each), processing & preserving of fruit & vegetables and palm oil (2% each) and cotton seed oil, sooji (rawa), soyabean oil, gram powder (besan), buffalo meat [fresh/frozen], spices (including mixed spices), salt, vanaspati, mustard oil, sunflower oil, manufacture of cocoa, chocolate & sugar confectionery, ghee and maida (1% each). However, the price of molasses (13%), groundnut oil (10%), honey (4%), processed tea, condensed milk and manufacture of starches and starch products (3% each), coffee powder with chicory, castor oil, instant coffee, chicken/duck [dressed-fresh/frozen] and manufacture of health supplements (2% each) and manufacture of prepared animal feeds, bagasse, gur, manufacture of processed ready to eat food, manufacture of bakery products and wheat bran (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Beverages’ group rose by 0.2 percent to 121.9 (provisional) from 121.6 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of beer, aerated drinks/soft drinks (incl. soft drink concentrates), spirits and bottled mineral water (1% each). However, the price of wine (2%) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Tobacco Products’ group rose by 3.2 percent to 153.7 (provisional) from 148.9 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of cigarette (8%) and other tobacco products (2%).

The index for ‘Manufacture of Textiles’ group declined by 0.3 percent to 118.7 (provisional) from 119.0 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of manufacture of cordage, rope, twine & netting (3%), manufacture of other textiles (2%) and manufacture of knitted & crocheted fabrics and cotton yarn (1% each). However, the price of manufacture of made-up textile articles, except apparel (1%) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Wearing Apparel’ group declined by 0.9 percent to 138.0 (provisional) from 139.2 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of manufacture of wearing apparel (woven), except fur apparel (1%).

The index for ‘Manufacture of Leather and Related Products’ group declined by 0.3 percent to 120.2 (provisional) from 120.6 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of chrome tanned leather (3%) and canvas shoes (2%). However, the price of harness, saddles & other related items, plastic/pvc chappals and leather shoe (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Wood and of Products of Wood and Cork’ group rose by 0.8 percent to 135.7 (provisional) from 134.6 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of wooden panel (11%) and wooden box/crate (7%). However, the price of wood cutting, processed/sized, lamination wooden sheets/veneer sheets and plywood block boards (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products’ group declined by 0.2 percent to 124.3 (provisional) from 124.5 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of newsprint, paper carton/box and pulp board (2% each) and corrugated sheet box, kraft paper and corrugated paper board (1% each). However, the price of duplex paper, map litho paper, laminated plastic sheet, card board and base paper (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Printing and Reproduction of Recorded Media’ group rose by 0.1 percent to 145.8 (provisional) from 145.6 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of hologram (3d) and printed form & schedule (6% each) and newspaper (1%). However, the price of printed labels/posters/calendars (1%) declined

The index for ‘Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products’ group rose by 0.2 percent to 119.7 (provisional) from 119.5 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of oleoresin (5%), aromatic chemicals and sulphuric acid (3% each), phosphoric acid, insecticide & pesticide, catalysts, alkyl benzene, fungicide (liquid), carbon black and hair oil/body oil (2% each) and explosive, polyester film(metalized), detergent cake, washing soap cake/bar/powder, mixed fertilizer, xlp compound, mono ethyl glycol, ammonium nitrate, other petrochemical intermediates, creams & lotions for external application, poly propylene (pp), aniline (including pna, ona, ocpna), fatty acid, mosquito coil and soda ash/washing soda (1% each). However, the price of menthol (7%), ammonium sulphate (4%), phthalic anhydride, powder coating material and acetic acid & its derivatives (3% each), camphor, other inorganic chemicals, gelatine, hydrogen peroxide and ethyl acetate (2% each) and toilet soap, adhesive excluding gum, additive, polystyrene (expandable), organic

solvent, ammonium phosphate, liquid air & other gaseous products, agro chemical formulation, printing ink and paint (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Pharmaceuticals, Medicinal Chemical and Botanical Products’ group declined by 0.2 percent to 125.7 (provisional) from 125.9 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of anti cancer drugs (16%), anti-retroviral drugs for hiv treatment (4%) and anti allergic drugs, plastic capsules, antipyretic, analgesic, anti-inflammatory formulations and anti inflammatory preparation (1% each). However, the price of simvastatin and anti-malarial drugs (4% each) and ayurvedic medicaments and antioxidants (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Rubber and Plastics Products’ group rose by 0.5 percent to 109.9 (provisional) from 109.4 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of rubber moulded goods and polythene film (3% each), plastic box/container, polyester film (non-metalized), polypropylene film and plastic tube (flexible/non-flexible) (2% each) and plastic tape, tractor tyre, conveyer belt (fibre based), elastic webbing, rubber crumb and plastic components (1% each). However, the price of condoms (5%), processed rubber (2%) and thermocol, plastic bag, medium & heavy commercial vehicle tyre, solid rubber tyres/wheels and pvc fittings & other accessories (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products’ group declined by 0.8 percent to 116.6 (provisional) from 117.5 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of graphite rod (15%), clinker (4%), toughened glass and porcelain sanitary ware (2% each) and asbestos corrugated sheet, poles & posts of concrete, railway sleeper, marble slab, ceramic tiles (vitrified tiles), lime & calcium carbonate and fibre glass incl. sheet (1% each). However, the price of cement superfine (8%), slag cement (3%), granite (2%) and ordinary portland cement, cement blocks (concrete) and glass bottle (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Basic Metals’ group rose by 0.5 percent to 111.0 (provisional) from 110.5 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of MS castings (4%), GP/GC sheet (3%), hot rolled (HR) coils & sheets, including narrow strip and copper shapes-bars/rods/plates/strips (2% each) and MS pencil ingots, other ferro alloys, stainless steel coils, strips & sheets, cold rolled (CR) coils & sheets, including narrow strip, ferrochrome, galvanized iron pipes, copper metal/copper rings, MS bright bars, aluminium foil and brass metal/sheet/coils (1% each). However, the price of stainless steel pencil ingots/billets/slabs (4%), silicomanganese (2%) and steel cables, steel forgings-rough, aluminium powder and aluminium metal (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Equipment’ group rose by 0.4 percent to 116.2 (provisional) from 115.7 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of sanitary fittings of iron & steel (8%) and forged steel rings, steel structures, cylinders and electrical stamping- laminated or otherwise (1% each). However, the price of lock/padlock (4%), copper bolts, screws, nuts and steel drums & barrels (2% each) and hand tools, jigs & fixture, steel door and iron/steel cap (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products’ group declined by 0.4 percent to 111.3 (provisional) from 111.8 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of colour TV and watch (2% each) and electronic printed circuit board (PCB)/micro circuit (1%). However, the price of electro-diagnostic apparatus, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences (3%) and sunglasses and capacitors (1% each) moved up.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Electrical Equipment’ group rose by 0.1 percent to 112.1 (provisional) from 112.0 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of domestic gas stove (2%) and connector/plug/socket/holder-electric, electric switch, electric & other meters, copper wire, electric welding machine, insulating & flexible wire, PVC insulated cable, incandescent lamps and transformer (1% each). However, the price of electric accumulators (7%), ACSR conductors (4%), solenoid valve and air coolers (3% each) and jelly filled cables, refrigerators, fibre optic cables, fluorescent tube, electric mixers/grinders/food processors, generator parts and fan (1% each) declined.

The index for 'Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment' group rose by 0.7 percent to 112.3 (provisional) from 111.5 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of dumper (8%), water purifier (5%), drilling machine (4%), pressure vessel & tank for fermentation & other food processing (4%), pharmaceutical machinery (3%), filtration equipment and precision machinery equipment/form tools (2% each) and roller mill (raymond), industrial valve, air or vacuum pump, open end spinning machinery, oil pump, sewing machines, material handling, lifting & hoisting equipment, loader, excavator, air gas compressor including compressor for refrigerator, clutches & shaft couplings, cranes, mining, quarrying & metallurgical machinery/parts and agriculture implements (1% each). However, the price of conveyors-non-roller type (5%), packing machine (4%), chemical equipment & system (3%) and hydraulic pump, roller & ball bearings, manufacture of bearings, gears, gearing & driving elements and deep freezers (1% each) declined.

The index for ‘Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers’ group rose by 0.2 percent to 113.5 (provisional)

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from 113.3 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of brake pad/brake liner/brake block/brake rubber, others (5%), cylinder liners (3%), seat for motor vehicles (2%) and radiators & coolers, body (for commercial motor vehicles) and crankshaft (1% each). However, the price of gear box & parts, axles of motor vehicles, head lamp and piston ring/piston & compressor (1% each) declined.

The index for 'Manufacture Of Other Transport Equipment' group rose by 0.3 percent to 113.2 (provisional) from 112.9 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of propellers & blades of boats/ships (1%).

The index for 'Manufacture of Furniture' group declined by 0.2 percent to 129.4 (provisional) from 129.7 (provisional) for the previous month due to lower price of wooden furniture (1%). However, the price of hospital furniture and steel shutter gate (1% each) moved up.

The index for 'Other Manufacturing' group rose by 2.2 percent to 108.7 (provisional) from 106.4 (provisional) for the previous month due to higher price of gold & gold ornaments and carrom board (2% each) and plastic moulded-others toys (1%). However, the price of playing cards and cricket ball (5% each) and football and silver (3% each) declined.

### **WPI FOOD INDEX (Weight 24.38%)**

The rate of inflation based on WPI Food Index consisting of 'Food Articles' from Primary Articles group and 'Food Product' from Manufactured Products group increased from 3.29% in February, 2019 to 3.89% in March, 2019.

### **FINAL INDEX FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2019 (BASE YEAR: 2011-12=100)**

For the month of January, 2019, the final Wholesale Price Index for 'All Commodities' (Base: 2011-12=100) and annual rate of inflation remained unchanged at its provisional level of 119.2 and 2.76 percent respectively as reported on 14.02.2019.

**Next date of press release: 14/05/2019 for the month of April, 2019**

**Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi,**

Wholesale Price Index and Rates of Inflation (Base Year: 2011-12=100)

Month of March, 2019

Commodities/Major Groups/Groups/Sub-Groups	Weight	WPI March-2019	Latest month over month		Build up from March		Year on year	
			2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
<b>ALL COMMODITIES</b>	100.00	<b>120.0</b>	0.17	0.42	2.74	3.18	2.74	3.18
<b>PRIMARY ARTICLES</b>	22.62	<b>134.7</b>	0.16	0.37	0.87	5.07	0.87	5.07
Food Articles	15.26	<b>145.1</b>	-0.44	0.90	-0.22	5.68	-0.22	5.68
Cereals	2.82	<b>157.5</b>	0.77	0.00	-0.41	8.92	-0.41	8.92
Paddy	1.43	<b>156.6</b>	0.79	0.06	3.32	2.62	3.32	2.62
Wheat	1.03	<b>155.5</b>	0.86	-1.08	-1.19	10.13	-1.19	10.13
Pulses	0.64	<b>135.3</b>	-1.45	-1.67	-20.58	10.63	-20.58	10.63
Vegetables	1.87	<b>147.6</b>	-7.54	10.89	-2.70	28.13	-2.70	28.13
Potato	0.28	<b>132.2</b>	20.72	-0.90	43.25	1.30	43.25	1.30
Onion	0.16	<b>108.0</b>	-37.26	2.56	42.22	-31.34	42.22	-31.34
Fruits	1.60	<b>140.6</b>	4.75	0.50	9.26	-7.62	9.26	-7.62
Milk	4.44	<b>143.2</b>	0.07	0.21	3.08	1.78	3.08	1.78
Eggs, Meat & Fish	2.40	<b>140.9</b>	-1.19	-2.02	-0.82	5.86	-0.82	5.86
Non-Food Articles	4.12	<b>123.5</b>	-0.50	-2.60	-1.48	2.83	-1.48	2.83
Oil Seeds	1.12	<b>145.5</b>	0.36	-0.95	7.77	4.90	7.77	4.90
Minerals	0.83	<b>136.7</b>	13.73	-1.87	20.47	-1.16	20.47	-1.16
Crude Petroleum	1.95	<b>77.7</b>	1.79	5.57	10.46	5.14	10.46	5.14
<b>FUEL &amp; POWER</b>	13.15	<b>103.3</b>	-0.81	2.28	4.70	5.41	4.70	5.41
LPG	0.64	<b>85.9</b>	-6.07	6.05	-9.08	0.94	-9.08	0.94
Petrol	1.60	<b>86.0</b>	-0.94	3.86	2.67	1.78	2.67	1.78
HSD	3.10	<b>96.7</b>	-1.31	2.11	6.12	7.33	6.12	7.33
<b>MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS</b>	64.23	<b>118.3</b>	0.26	0.17	3.12	2.16	3.12	2.16
Manufacture of Food Products	9.12	<b>128.5</b>	1.03	-0.16	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47
Manufacture of Vegetable And Animal Oils and Fats	2.64	<b>114.2</b>	3.08	-1.04	7.93	-2.39	7.93	-2.39
Sugar	1.06	<b>114.2</b>	-0.68	0.09	-10.64	-2.23	-10.64	-2.23
Manufacture of Tobacco Products	0.51	<b>153.7</b>	-1.12	3.22	5.70	2.26	5.70	2.26
Manufacture of Textiles	4.88	<b>118.7</b>	0.35	-0.25	1.15	3.94	1.15	3.94
Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	0.81	<b>138.0</b>	-0.65	-0.86	3.46	0.22	3.46	0.22
Manufacture of Leather and Related Products	0.54	<b>120.2</b>	-0.41	-0.33	0.00	-0.17	0.00	-0.17
Manufacture of Wood And of Products of Wood and Cork	0.77	<b>135.7</b>	-0.15	0.82	1.08	3.27	1.08	3.27
Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	1.11	<b>124.3</b>	-0.41	-0.16	3.98	3.33	3.98	3.33
Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	6.47	<b>119.7</b>	0.35	0.17	3.40	3.64	3.40	3.64
Manufacture of Rubber and Plastics Products	2.30	<b>109.9</b>	0.28	0.46	-1.10	2.14	-1.10	2.14
Manufacture of other Non-Metallic Mineral Products	3.20	<b>116.6</b>	-0.09	-0.77	4.30	2.28	4.30	2.28
Manufacture of Cement, Lime and Plaster	1.64	<b>117.2</b>	-1.47	0.26	3.93	3.17	3.93	3.17
Manufacture of Basic Metals	9.65	<b>111.0</b>	0.74	0.45	14.64	1.28	14.64	1.28
Mild Steel - Semi Finished Steel	1.27	<b>98.1</b>	0.31	0.20	8.64	0.00	8.64	0.00
Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Equipment	3.15	<b>116.2</b>	-0.09	0.43	3.23	3.75	3.23	3.75
Manufacture of other Transport Equipment	1.65	<b>113.2</b>	-1.78	0.27	0.45	2.54	0.45	2.54

**Trend of Rate of Inflation for some important items during last six months**

Commodities/Major Groups/Groups/Sub-Groups	Weight (%)	Rate of Inflation for the last six months					
		Mar-19	Feb-19	Jan-19	Dec-18	Nov-18	Oct-18
<b>ALL COMMODITIES</b>	100.00	3.18	2.93	2.76	3.46	4.47	5.54
<b>PRIMARY ARTICLES</b>	22.62	5.07	4.84	3.00	1.37	0.59	2.46
Food Articles	15.26	5.68	4.28	2.41	-0.42	-3.24	-1.42
Cereals	2.82	8.92	9.76	8.30	8.01	7.16	6.24
Paddy	1.43	2.62	3.37	3.59	4.64	4.22	4.08
Wheat	1.03	10.13	12.29	9.94	9.61	9.18	9.49
Pulses	0.64	10.63	10.88	7.47	2.11	-5.42	-13.51
Vegetables	1.87	28.13	6.82	-4.08	-19.29	-26.71	-18.35
Potato	0.28	1.30	23.40	26.93	41.89	88.55	94.48
Onion	0.16	-31.34	-58.00	-65.60	-63.83	-47.60	-31.69
Fruits	1.60	-7.62	-3.72	-4.53	-4.87	-2.49	0.80
Milk	4.44	1.78	1.64	2.21	2.50	2.78	2.78
Eggs, Meat & Fish	2.40	5.86	6.76	5.47	4.40	0.00	-0.44
Non-Food Articles	4.12	2.83	5.05	2.32	4.36	6.40	4.14
Oil Seeds	1.12	4.90	6.30	8.59	8.97	10.70	7.50
Minerals	0.83	-1.16	14.56	14.20	13.99	24.20	14.80
Crude Petroleum	1.95	5.14	1.38	0.55	1.41	18.32	50.08
<b>FUEL &amp; POWER</b>	13.15	5.41	2.23	1.85	7.64	15.54	18.66
LPG	0.64	0.94	-10.60	-7.47	6.87	23.22	31.39
Petrol	1.60	1.78	-2.93	-3.35	0.84	12.06	20.10
HSD	3.10	7.33	3.72	1.90	7.81	20.16	24.14
<b>MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS</b>	64.23	2.16	2.25	2.79	3.59	4.21	4.57
Manufacture of Food Products	9.12	0.47	1.66	1.26	0.31	0.55	1.17
Manufacture of Vegetable And Animal Oils and Fats	2.64	-2.39	1.67	2.04	2.15	5.34	9.49
Sugar	1.06	-2.23	-2.98	-5.80	-9.42	-11.40	-11.44
Manufacture of Tobacco Products	0.51	2.26	-2.04	-0.33	-1.71	-1.06	0.00
Manufacture of Textiles	4.88	3.94	4.57	5.03	5.04	5.40	5.77
Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	0.81	0.22	0.43	-0.07	-0.07	-0.36	0.29
Manufacture of Leather and Related Products	0.54	-0.17	-0.25	0.92	-0.33	1.67	1.25
Manufacture of Wood And of Products of Wood and Cork	0.77	3.27	2.28	2.76	2.28	2.53	0.61
Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	1.11	3.33	3.06	4.26	5.65	6.27	4.44
Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	6.47	3.64	3.82	4.82	6.01	7.83	7.69
Manufacture of Rubber and Plastics Products	2.30	2.14	1.96	2.71	3.09	2.52	2.23
Manufacture of other Non-Metallic Mineral Products	3.20	2.28	2.98	1.75	1.77	2.21	3.40
Manufacture of Cement, Lime and Plaster	1.64	3.17	1.39	0.96	-0.62	-0.44	-0.26
Manufacture of Basic Metals	9.65	1.28	1.56	3.57	9.14	12.54	14.00
Mild Steel - Semi Finished Steel	1.27	0.00	0.10	1.14	4.44	7.87	9.52
Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Equipment	3.15	3.75	3.21	4.49	4.33	4.14	5.84
Manufacture of other Transport Equipment	1.65	2.54	0.44	0.71	0.90	1.08	1.18