

# Govt increases prices of 13 essential items sold through Supplyco stores

Decision comes as part of changing fixed rate system introduced in 2016, to arrest price hike

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@TPuram

IN A major policy shift that could make life miserable for common people, the state government has decided to increase the price of 13 essential items sold through Supplyco outlets. Now the government will provide a subsidy of up to 35% of open market rates. Therefore the price of essential items will change according to the price fluctuations in the market.

A decision was taken by the state cabinet to change the fixed rate system introduced when the first Pinarayi Vijayan government came to power in 2016, to arrest price hike.

Instead, the government brought back the subsidy rate system that existed before 2016.

In 2016, the Left government had taken a policy decision not to increase the price of essential items, as part of an effort to arrest price hike.

The government fixed the rate that existed in 2014 (26% less than the then market price) for these items, and it continued till now. However, considering the huge price hike in the

NEW PRICE LIST OF 13 ESSENTIAL GOODS	
Moong dal- ₹92	Matta Rice- ₹30
Black gram- ₹95	Kuruva Rice- ₹30
Chana- ₹69	Raw Rice- ₹26
Red Cow Peas- ₹75	
Toor Dal- ₹113	
Chili (half kg)- ₹82	
Coriander (half kg)- ₹39	
Sugar (1kg)- ₹27	
Coconut oil (0.5 kg) - ₹55	
Jaya Rice- ₹29	

The government took the decision based on its conviction that to maintain this system in a sustainable and permanent state there should be scientific and logical modification of the subsidy mechanism

G R Anil, Food and Civil Supplies Minister



open market, the cabinet gave its nod to go for a policy change.

The government decision to hike the prices of essential items sold through Supplyco created a major uproar in the assembly on Thursday.

Leader of Opposition V D

Satheesan questioned the decision through a submission. He came down heavily on the government for keeping the assembly in the dark about the decision. The minister announced the decision outside the assembly, he said.

Replying to the Opposition

charge, Civil Supplies Minister G R Anil said that the public can buy the specified 13 items for ₹940 from Supplyco outlets whereas in the open market the price for these items would be ₹1,446. He claimed that the consumer will get a subsidy benefit of ₹506.

"This is a model market intervention to give maximum benefits to consumers. The government took the decision based on its conviction that to maintain this system in a sustainable and permanent state there should be scientific and logical modification of the subsidy mechanism," the minister told reporters later.

He also said that, in 2013 and 2014 the UDF government increased the price of these items three times.

"The Supplyco is facing a huge financial liability of ₹35 crore per month and ₹425 crore per year. Each year around 35 to 40 lakh families rely on the Supplyco. The financial liabilities of various departments to the Supplyco comes to ₹1,525 crore," he said.

At present, Supplyco suffers a financial burden close to ₹425 crore per annum through market intervention measures.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Kozhikode

THE 10th Mujahid Conference that began at Karipur on Thursday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in the UAE, where he said the world needs governments that accommodate all sections of people.

The conference felt the country will be saved from its current insecurity if the prime minister implements the content of his speech delivered at the World Governments' Summit.

"Minorities including Muslims are denied the equal justice and opportunity envisaged in the Constitution. This situation should be solved in the light of the prime minister's statement," the Mujahid Conference noted.

It also demanded that the government should create a congenial situation for a peaceful living for all citizens. It noted that injustice and inequality will lead to anarchy in the country. "It is a matter of concern that mosques and churches are being destroyed and encroached in the country. The court orders that pay scant re-

gard to the law that stipulated status quo for places of worship are posing dangers to democracy," the conference said.

It wanted the supreme court to intervene in the court order that allowed puja at the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi.

Abed Alrazeq Abu Jazer, the media and politics counsellor at the Palestine Embassy, inaugurated the conference. He said the support extended by the people of India to the Palestine struggle is inspiring. He recalled the support given by Mahatma Gandhi during the Indian independence struggle.

Organising committee working chairman K L P Yusuf presided over. K N M Markazudawa president E K Ahamed Kutty, general secretary C P Umar Sullami, MPs Elamaram Karoem and Benoy Viswom, IUMIL state general secretary P M A Salam, Swami Athmadas Yami, Fr Sajeew Varghese, Padma Shri Cheruvayal Raman and I P Abusalam were among those who attended.

Kerala Jam-Iyyathul Ulama president A Abdul Hameed Madani inaugurated the Global Islahi Meet organised as part of the conference.

# Religious ritual in school: Report sent to minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Kozhikode

MANOJKUMAR C, the Deputy Director of Education (DDE) in Kozhikode, has forwarded the report filed by the Kunnummal assistant educational officer (AEO) on the religious ritual conducted in an aided school in the district to General Education Minister V Sivankutty and the department director.

The DDE has also sought an explanation from Aruna, the manager of Nadumannur LP School who allegedly conducted the 'Ganapathy homam' on the campus on Tuesday. Meanwhile, it has been decided to reopen the school on Saturday.

The report filed by Kunnummal AEO Abdul Khader K on Wednesday had said the 'controversial' incident at the school, situated in Kayakkodi panchayat, revealed a failure on the part of its management. The report also said Aruna organised the event without the knowledge of the headmistress and continued it in defiance of the head teacher's instructions.

"On Thursday, school manager Aruna was asked to furnish an explanation, either by appearing at the DDE office or via mail, within a week. A call on further course of action will be taken based on the statement," said Manojkumar.

# Excise to hold spl anti-narcotic drives

SHAN A S @TPuram

THE excise department has decided to conduct four mandatory anti-narcotic programmes in each district in a bid to curb the influx of contraband to the state.

The decision was taken in a monthly conference convened by Excise Commissioner Mahipal Yadav last month.

During the meeting, it was decided to regularly conduct four special drives in each district. The joint commissioners, who are in charge of the zones, were directed to conduct one special drive in each district. There are three

excise zones in the state and 14 excise divisions come under them.

Each zone is headed by a joint commissioner. The excise divisions, which are co-terminous with the revenue districts, are headed by deputy commissioners and each of them has been given a target of three special drives to be held in areas under their jurisdiction. Sources said the special drive could be anything ranging from combing operations to border sealing.

"The directive is to conduct special programmes to tackle the increased inflow of drugs and intoxicants to the state.

The officers will have the liberty to conduct programmes that they find suitable. It could be combing operations to nab history-sheeters, vehicle checking, and checking of train passengers with the assistance of the police and the Railway Protection Force. They can also seal the interstate borders and conduct checking of vehicles and passengers," said the source.

The excise, meanwhile, is working out a plan to conduct a month-long drive ahead of the Lok Sabha polls to prevent smuggling of intoxicants to the state. The exercise will be launched once the notification of the Lok Sabha poll is issued.

EXPRESS READ

## PM Modi to visit state on Feb 27

TPuram: With the Lok Sabha election around the corner, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the state once again. He will inaugurate the valedictory function of the Kerala Padayatra, led by BJP state chief K Surendran, at the state capital on February 27. In a press conference in Thiruvananthapuram, Surendran said the function will be held at the Central Stadium. Modi is likely to attend a couple of other official programmes in the state.

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**  
Tender No.: Re T No.213 to 215/2023-24/SE/1Q

J/M -Poruvazhy, Kunnathoor panchayat-Transmission main, pumping main, construction of OHSR, road restoration work, construction of 10m dia intake well cum pump house and approach road and sub station building near Njankadavu. EMD : Rs. 500000, 200000. Tender fee : Rs. 16540+2978.11025+1985. Last date for submitting tender : 01-03-2024 02.00 pm, Phone : 0474 2745293  
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.tenders.kerala.gov.in

KWA-JB-GL-6-2358-2023-24 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam

**Capl**  
KERALA STATE CENTRE FOR ADVANCED PRINTING AND TRAINING  
Head Office Complex, Vattioorkavu, Thiruvananthapuram. Ph: 2365678, 2365415  
CAPT/228/2024-02(OUTSOURCE)  
**LIMITED TENDER NOTICE**  
(Tender No. 215/23-24/OSG)

Sealed competitive tenders are invited from the leading firms to undertake Printing of Poster with short duration. Due date for submission of tender is 17.02.2024 at 11.00 AM. For more details log on to www.capl.kerala.com  
15.02.2024 Sd/-, MD, C-apt

**WANTED**  
Applications are invited to the post of HSST Jr. Botany in St. Joseph's HSS, Meloor, HSST Jr. Hindi in PS HSS, Thirumudikkunnu, HSST Hindi in St. Joseph's HS, Meloor from visually impaired candidates and HST Maths in St. Mary's HS Aluva from deaf and low of hearing candidates. Self attested copies of the certificates should be attached with the application. Application should reach on or before 29/02/2024, 4 pm, before the Corporate Manager, Archdiocesan Corporate Educational Agency, Archdiocese of Emakulam- Angamally, Renewal Centre, Azad Road, Kaloor, Kochi-682 017. Corporate Manager

**KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE**

**Olo the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kasaragod**  
E-tender ID: 2024\_KSEB\_647585\_1  
PAC: 8,79,43,156/- Last Date: 22.02.2024 05.00pm  
E-tender ID: 2024\_KSEB\_647983\_1  
PAC: 13,32,14,500/- Last Date: 22.02.2024 05.00pm  
E-tender ID: 2024\_KSEB\_647603\_1  
PAC: 5,92,68,735/- Last Date: 22.02.2024 05.00pm  
E-tender ID: 2024\_KSEB\_647389\_1  
PAC: 15,41,46,939/- Last Date: 22.02.2024 05.00pm  
E-tender ID: 2024\_KSEB\_647859\_1  
PAC: 12,81,61,634/- Last Date: 22.02.2024 05.00pm  
Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in  
Ref : PR/MC/IE/469/E-tender/2024

**IN THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM**  
(Original Jurisdiction)  
In the matter of the Companies Act, 1956 and  
and  
IN THE MATTER OF M/s. THOMAS STEAPHEN & CO. LTD.  
(IN LIQUIDATION)  
C.P. No.53/2000  
**E-AUCTION NOTICE**

In pursuance of the Hon'ble High Court order dated 05.02.2024 passed in Official Liquidator's Report No:115/2024 online competitive bids are hereby invited for sale of immovable properties mentioned below belonging to the above said company in liquidation situated at Manamadurai, Manamadurai Village, Sivagangai District, Tamil Nadu on 'AS IS WHERE IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS' through e-auction to be conducted by M/s. Railtel Corporation of India Ltd scheduled on 21.03.2024 from 14.00 hours to 17.00 hours.

Lot Nos.	Description	Upset Price	EMD
I	1.93 acres of land situated at Madurai-Rameswaram Highway in Sy No.55/2 at Manamadurai Village, Tamilnadu	2,17,12,500/-	21,00,000/-
II	1.22 acres of paddy land situated at Sy No.86/2 of Manamadurai Village, Tamilnadu	3,84,300/-	38,000/-
III	34.18 cents of landed property situated at Sy. No.385 and 385/part of Manamadurai Village, Tamilnadu	38,45,250/-	3,80,000/-
IV	2 cents of landed property situated at Sy. No.390/2, Kannar Street, Manamadurai Village at Manamadurai, Tamilnadu.	2,25,000/-	22,000/-

The entire e-auction catalogue ie. "Terms and conditions" of sale containing the schedules for giving full particulars of event of e-auction, guidelines for online registration etc are available on Rail Tel Corporation of India Ltd website: www.railtelindia.com and can be viewed by clicking on the following URL of https://olauction.envidia.com and Ministry's website at www.mca.gov.in. Inspection of the assets can be had at the property premises situated at Manamadurai, Manamadurai Village, Sivagangai District, Tamil Nadu 630 606 on 05.03.2024 between 10 a.m to 4 p.m. The Official Liquidator subject to the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala reserves the right to accept or reject the highest offer and also put the assets for resale. The EMD as above need to be paid through online mode at least five days before the date of e-auction.

The intending bidders may contact Sri.Gagan T.S., Sr.Manager, M/s.Rail Tel Corporation of India, Bengaluru on Mobile No:8448288967/89 & Smt. Sujatha 8448288994/86 for doubts/clarifications, if any, on the e-auction procedure and Sri.P.P.George, Official of the office of the Official Liquidator on 05.03.2024 Mobile No:9447307110 between 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m for details about the properties.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024

Sd/-, OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR  
HIGH COURT OF KERALA, CORPORATE BHAVAN  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, B.M.C.Road, Thrikkakara P.O., Kochi - 21, Phone No.2422889(0)

**HDFC BANK LIMITED**  
Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013  
Branch: HDFC Bank Ltd, Tagore Theatre Road, P B No.2288, Vazhuthacadu, Thiruvananthapuram-695010  
Tel: 0471-6170373/6170372. CIN: L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

**SALE NOTICE**

The Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Limited (erstwhile HDFC Limited) having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (HDFC) issues Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) indicated in Column (A) that the below described immovable property(ies) described in Column (C) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken as described in column (D) by the Authorised Officer of HDFC Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the details mentioned below :

Notice is hereby given to Borrower indicated in Column (A) under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Sl. No.	Name/s of Borrower(s)	Outstanding dues to be recovered (Secured Debt) (Rs.)*	Description of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset (1 Sq. mtr. is equivalent to 10.76 Sq.ft)	Type of Possession	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest money deposit (Rs.)	Date of Auction and time
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
1.	<b>Mr Aji R &amp; Mrs Ajitha Kumari A</b> Ajith Bhavan Thuravottukonam Palkkunn Koovalassery PO Trivandrum-695512	<b>*Rs. 21,02,156/-</b> (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Two Thousand One Hundred and Fifty Six only) as on 31/12/21	02.22 Ares (222 Sq.M), Re-Sy.200/2-3-1, Old Sy. 425/4 of Maranalloor Village, Neyyattinkara Taluk, Trivandrum District. Bounded on the West : Pathway, North : Property of Madhu, South : Property of Sanandam, East : Property of Santhosh	Actual	Rs. 13,00,000/-	Rs. 1,30,000/-	22/03/2024 10.00 AM
2.	<b>Mr Pramod Rao &amp; Mrs Rajani P TC 36/1425-2</b> Vaikundam, VARA- 849, Krishnapillai Nagar, Thiruvananthapuram-695013 <b>M/s Raos</b> Dharmalayam Road Thampanoor Thiruvananthapuram-695001	<b>*Rs.1,26,59,364/-</b> (Rupees One Crore Twenty Six Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Four only) as on 31/10/2022.	02.99 Ares (299 Sq.M) of property comprised in Sy No. 2591/1-6-6 of Vattioorkavu Village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District. Bounded on the West: Property of Sunilkumar, North : Property of Rijo, South : Property of V K Kesavan Nair, East : Corporation Road.	Actual	Rs. 90,00,000/-	Rs. 9,00,000/-	22/03/2024 10.15 AM

\*together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and / or realisation thereof

To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd, there are no encumbrances in respect of the above immovable properties / Secured Assets, other than the encumbrances mentioned in the respective bid documents

**TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE:**

- The particulars in respect of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset specified hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the Authorized Officer / HDFC Bank Ltd.
- However, the Authorized Officer / HDFC shall not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The Bidders are therefore requested in their own interest, to satisfy themselves with regard to the above and all other relevant details / material information pertaining to the above mentioned Immovable Property / Secured Asset, before submitting the bids.
- Statutory dues like property taxes / cess and transfer charges, arrears of electricity dues, arrears of water charges and other charges known and unknown in respect to the secured assets being sold, shall be ascertained by the Bidder beforehand and the payment of the same shall be the responsibility of the buyer of Secured Assets.
- Wherever applicable, it is the responsibility of buyer of Secured Assets to deduct tax at source (TDS) @ of 1% of the total sale consideration on behalf of the resident owner (seller) on the transfer of immovable property having consideration equal to Rs.50 Lacs and above and deposit the same with appropriate authority u/s 194 I/A of Income Tax Act.
- Sale is strictly subject to the Terms, Conditions and Disclaimers stipulated in the prescribed Auction Bid Document, Offer Acceptance Letter, Public Notice, terms and conditions mentioned hereinbelow and any other related documents.
- The Bid Document can be collected / obtained from the Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd having his office at HDFC Bank Ltd, Tagore Theatre Road, P B No 2288, Vazhuthacadu, Trivandrum on any working day during office hours.
- The Bid Document will also be available at site on the respective date fixed for inspection of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset.
- Properties / Secured Assets are available for inspection on 23/02/2024 between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30.
- For any assistance related to inspection of the property, or for obtaining the Bid document and for any other queries, please get in touch with **9072851669**.
- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be deposited by the bidders through Demand Draft / Pay Order in Favour of HDFC Bank Ltd payable at par in sealed envelope and shall be submitted at HDFC Bank Ltd, Tagore Theatre Road, P B No 2288, Vazhuthacadu, Trivandrum.
- The offer amount (to be mentioned in Bid document) shall be above Reserve Price and bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Bid incremental amount which will be decided and disclosed by the Authorised officer at the time of auction.
- The last date of submission of bids in prescribed Bid Documents with all necessary documents and EMD in stipulated manner is 21/03/2024, 4pm.
- Incomplete Bid Documents or bids with inadequate EMD amount or bids received after the date indicated at Sr. No 12 hereinabove shall be treated as invalid.
- Conditional offers shall also be treated as invalid.
- The auction will be conducted on the date and time indicated in Column (G). Bids will be opened on the date and time indicated in Column (G) in the presence of the Authorized Officer, Tagore Theatre Road, P B No.2288, Vazhuthacadu, Thiruvananthapuram-695010
- The bidders or their duly authorized representatives may choose to remain present on the day and time fixed for opening the bids, inter alia, for negotiations / raising / revising / improving their respective bids / offers at HDFC Bank Ltd, Tagore Theatre Road, P B No 2288, Vazhuthacadu, Trivandrum .
- The Immovable Property / Secured Asset shall not be sold below the Reserve Price.
- On sale of the property, the purchaser shall not have any claim of whatsoever nature against HDFC or its Authorized Officer.
- It shall be at the discretion of the Authorized officer to cancel the auction proceeding for any reason and return the EMD submitted and HDFC will not entertain any claim or representation in that regard from the bidders.
- The Authorized officer has the absolute right to accept or reject the highest and / or all Bid(s) or postpone or cancel the sale, as the case may be without assigning any reasons thereof and also to modify any of the terms and condition of this sale without prior notice.
- The sale shall be conferred on the highest bidder subject to confirmation by Secured Creditor i.e. HDFC
- EMD of successful bidder shall be adjusted and for all other unsuccessful bidders, the same shall be refunded within 10 days from the date of Auction. The Earnest money deposit will not carry any interest.
- Along with Bid Documents the Bidder(s) should also attach his/her photo identity proof such as copy of the passport, election commission card, ration card, driving license, copy of the PAN card issued by the Income Tax department etc. and the proof of residence countersigned by the bidder herself/himself.
- The successful bidder shall be required to pay 25% of the offer amount (including the amount of EMD) immediately i.e. on the same day or not later than next working day, as the case may be (as per the amended provisions of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) on confirmation of offer acceptance by HDFC, failing which the EMD amount remitted will stand forfeited. The balance 75% of offer amount shall be paid within 15 days of confirmation of sale by the Authorized officer. If the balance amount is not remitted within stipulated time the amount of 25% will stand forfeited as per the amended provisions of Rule 9(4) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Date: 16/02/2024  
Place: Trivandrum  
For HDFC Bank Ltd.  
Authorised Officer