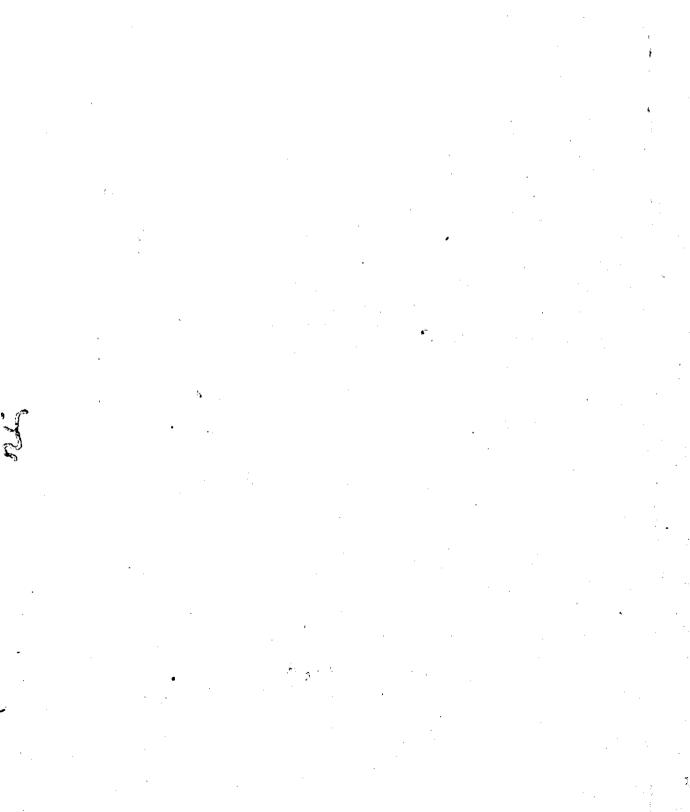
PRICE TRENDS 1966

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PREFACE

This report is the first in a series of annual review of price behaviour in the State. The report is intended to meet the requirements of a factual appraisal of price behaviour which may be of help in formulating measures in the field-of price policy etc. and a source of information for the public. Part I of the report analyses the major developments in the economy, trends in production of important crops, price behaviour etc. Part II of the report contains a review of the food situation, trends in production of important crops in the State etc. It also analyses in detail the indices of wholesale prices of important agricultural commodities and consumer prices. The index numbers of parity between prices received and prices paid by farmers are also examined. A review of the Wholesale price movements of important agricultural commodities in the State has also been attempted. A brief discussion on the retail prices of some essential commodities is also included.

The concluding paragraphs try to give a broad outline of the causes of inflationary pressures which have been at work for some time in the economy.

The report has been prepared in the "Prices Unit" of this Eureau.

Trivandrum, 2-8-1967

DR. P.K.GOPALAKRISHNAN
Director

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PART I

INDIA

Development in the Economy

The year 1966 turned out to be a most difficult one creating great anxiety and strain for the Indian economy in recent years. Internally with rapidly increasing population, the problem of inadequate supplies of food articles consequent on the stagnation in agricultural output during the last two years, aggravated further during the year under report. On the otherhand, the pressures emanating from the demand side through the rising tempo of development and high levels of expenditure on defence continued. In the result, the price situation especially in respect of articles of mass consumption, deteriorated sharply during the peiod. Externally, the balance of payments situation became worse as exports could not maintain the required tempo, while payments for imports and debt repayments mounted up rapidly. This caused a severe strain on the country's already worsened foreign exchange position.

The sharp step-up in defence outlay, consequent on the serious hostilities posed by Pakistan and China added to the pressure on resources. Further, the suspension of the much needed external credit by some major aid giving countries during the year accentuated the difficulties.

The failure of the monsoon resulted in a severe set-back to the production of agricultural commodities. In fact, the rate of increase of agricultural production, in general, and of food-production in particular, fell short of the rate of population growth.

The upsurege in prices which began from the beginning of 1964 gathered considerable momentum during the major part of 1966. The general price index rose from 132.5 in 1963 to 183.2 in 1966, registering an increase of 38.3%. The index of agricultural commodities spurted from 126.8 in 1963 to 189.8 in 1966, recording an increasing of about 50%. The index of food articles moved up by 42.5% to 189.1 in 1966. Compared to the situation in December 1965, the index has recorded a rise of 14.4% in December 1966.

The growing pressure of demand in relation to the inadequate growth of output was an important factor in the worsening of the prace situation. Money supply, representing monetary demand in the economy, rose substantially during

the year. The increase was much larger in the currency components of money supply than in Deposits. At a time when aggregate supply was adversely affected, such growth in monetary resources served to aggravate the imbalance between aggregate demand and aggregate supply. The monetary expansion during the period mainly stemmed from the large magnitude of bank credit extended to the Government.

Moreover, payments difficulties became more acute during the year under review. Not only did exports cease to grow, but even the existing level of export could not be maintained. Most of our export commodities became uncompetitive in the world market due to price inflation inspite of the various schemes of export assistance offered. On the other hand, imports showed only a small decline despite the import restrictions. It was due to additional demands on account of food imports and freights thereon.

Again, the expectations of a small surplus in the Union Budget and reduced outlays in State Budgets envisaged for 1965-66 did not materialise. In consequence, Government had to increase further its reliance on the banking system to finance the deficit.

The unrestrained inflation caused distortions all round through its adverse consequences on living standards, on plan costs, exports etc., thereby leading to the devaluation of the rupee on 6th June 1966.

Trends in Production

Agriculture:

Agricultural development programmes introduced in the first decade of planning made a significant impact on the size and character of Indian Agriculture. The growth rate in this sector made a marketed improvement. The index of agricultural production improved from 96 in 1950-52 (base 49-50 = 100) to 158 in 1964-65, an increase of about 65% in 14 years.

However, it may be noted that the performance in the III Plan has been disappointing. Although a great deal was done to create potential for higher production, successive years of bad weather conditions as well as shortfalls in individual programmes adversely affected production. The index of agricultural production remained at the 1960-61 level. Food grains production made

a nominal advance in 1961-62 but declined in 1962-63 and 1963-64 to levels lower than that at the end of the II plan. It showed a sharp increase in 1964-65 when there was a favourable weather condition. The year 1965-66 witnessed one of the worst draughts in recent years and food grains production declined by 18.8% from 89 million tennes in 1964-65 to 72.3 million tonnes in 12 1965-66. A major part of the shortfall in foodgrain output was accounted for by rice in which the decline was 8.4 million tons. Wheat cutput declined by 1.6 million tonnes and pulses production by 2.4 million tonnes. In respect of commercial crops, production of groundnut has receded by 32%, raw jute and mesta by 25% and cotton by 1.8% from that of the previous year. During 1965-66, the output of sugarcane maintained a steady The 17 million shortfall in foodgrains production led to record imports during 1966. Yet according to the FoodMinistry's report the percapita availability of cereals was only 133 kg./ year as against 151 kg. in 1965.

Industries:

The year 1965-66 was characterised by a sharp deceleration in the rate of growth of industrial production. The rate actually slowed down to about 2.5% during the year against 6.2% in 1964-65, 8.5% in 1963-64, 7.7% in 1962-63 and 7.0% in 1961-62. Several factors were responsible for this setback, the important among them being the squeeze on foreign aid, the meagre availability of foreign exchange, the shortfall in agriculture production and shortages in raw material supplies.

The fall in production of cotton textiles has been to the extent of about 3.5% in 1965-66 compared to the previous year. Excluding cotton textiles, the index of industrial production would show an increase by 6.2% in 1965-66. Some of the other industries which showed decline in output were railway wagons, fertilizers and woollen textiles. Reduced availability of imported components and raw materials affected the industries such as fertilizers, automobiles and wollen textiles.

The performance of some basic and intermediate goods industries was rather encouraging. Output of iron and steel, aluminium and cement showed significant increase. Output of sugar in 1965-66 was estimated at 3.5 million tonnes compared to 3.3 million tonnes in 1964-65.

Price Behaviour

The impact of the fall in production and market supplies on the level of prices has been in evidence during 1966. The sharp rise in prices which began in 1964 continued its course relentlessly. On a broad reckoning, the general index of wholesale prices of all commodities during the year was higher by 38.3% than that in 1963, as mentioned earlier. The devaluation of the rupee was effected in June 1966.

The price rise in 1966 after devaluation has been to the extent of 7%, for the general index of wholesale prices has gone up from 181.4 in May to 194.1 in December 1966. However, it may be noted that this post devaluation rise is on the top of an increase of another 7% increase during the period from January to May 1966.

Food articles:

Demand for food has tended to increase more rapidly than in the past because population growth has accelerated. Also the increase in income, in recent years, has become an important element in the growth of demand for foodgrains. Periodic intensification of the chronic food shortage caused by fluctuations in production has also continued to exist.

It has been estimated that the population increased by 59.7 million from 439.2 in 1961 to 498.9 million in 1966, ie. an increase of 13.6%. The index number of foodgrain production increased from 137.1 in 1960-61 to 151.8 in 1965-66, registering an increase of only 10.7%.

During 1966, the price rise of food articles has been of the order of about 19%. The index of food articles which stood at 173.2 in December 1965 fell marginally to 172.3 in January 1966 and to 171.0 in February 1966 and rose again to 172.9 in March. The index moved up to 178.5 in April 1966, and progressively reached 205.1 in December 1966. A disquieting fact about the price trends in 1966 is that the usual seasonal downward trend was virtually absent.

The price increase (food) during 1966 has been obviously due to the unprecedented drought in the agricultural year 1965-66. The massive food imports to the tune of more than 10 million tonnes to offset the food scarcity, could not assist in restraining food prices to any appreciable extent.

Liquor and Tobacco:

The indices pertaining to Liquor and Tobacco recorded a substantial fall during the year. The index which stood at 136.6 in December 1965 has fallen gradually to 129.3 in October 1966 (ofcourse with mild increases during the period from May to September). Thereafter the index picked up to 130.6 in November and 130.5 in December 1966.

Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants:

The group index for fuel, power, light and lubricants, however, showed an upward movement. The index which stood at 154.5 in December 1965 progressively rose to 162.9 in December 1966, recording an increase of ...4%.

Industrial raw materials:

The industrial rav rials group index has registered a fairly steep increase. index which stood at 199.6 in December 1965 has progressively risen to 237.9 in August 1966, recording an increase of 19.1%. In September 1966, the index declined to 224.3 to be followed by a further softening during the months of October and November, the indices being 222.3 and 221.7 respectively. Again the index rose to 226.9 in December 1966, registering an increase of 13.6% over the corresponding period of the previous year.

It may be noted that the increase in the prices of a fibres and oil seeds has mainly contributed to the rise in inquestrial raw material prices. The lower output of jute, cotton and oil seeds during the agricultural year have had their impact on this increased price level.

Manufactures:

The manufactures groups index too rose during the year. The index which stood at 151.7 in December 1965 has firmed up progressively to 162.0 in July 1966. Thereafter the index marginally fell to 161.5 in August, and 160.3 in September to be fallowed by a rise in the rest of the year. The index which stood at 162.2 in October rose to 163.4 in November and further picked up to 165.2 in December 1966.

However, the procetrends of manufactures have not been as disquieting as those of food prices. It seems that the post devaluation followup measures by way of liberalisation of maintenance imports and other credit facilities have had a restraining effect on the prices of manufactures.

By and large the general price level rose substantially during 1966, mainly on account of the rise in the price of food articles and industrial raw materials. The wholesale price index (base 1952-53 = 100) moved up from 158.3 in June 1965 to 160.8 in August 1965. Thereafter the index number fluctuated in several months till February 1966 between 165 and 170. From March 1963, it began a strident rise and rose progressively to 191.7 in August 1966. The index marginally fell to 187.7 in Septement to be followed by a gradual rise leading to 194.1 in December 1966 as against 169.7 in December 1965.

The increase in g waral prices (average) in 1966 was of the order of 13.6%, compared to the increase of 8.8% during the previous years.

The above analysis gives an idea of the extent of inflation that has crept into the economy. During the last 11 years, since 1955, the general level of prices has doubled. In 1966, the wholsesale price index (base 1952-53 = 100) has been 183.2, compared to the level of 91.5 in 1955. Such inflationary pressures in the economy have stemmed not only from factors like overall shortages of supplies of essential goods and services, but also from relatively large additions to purchasing power, recompanied by corresponding increases in supplies of goods.

The economy was suffering from inflationary pressures, as a result of high levels of expenditure by Government for defence and development. The aggregate deficit financing during the fiscal pear 1965-66 was estimated to be Rs.385 crores. Money supple and time deposits taken together expanded by Rs.658 crores 1965-66 compared to Rs.509 Crores in 1964-65.

Cost of living:

The higher Wel of wholesale prices, particularly of food articles has been reflected more or less correspondingly in consumer prices. The All India consumer price index for working class 1949 = 100) rose from 173 in December 1965 to 197 in December 1966, recording an increase of 13.9%. The index which stood at 173 in January 1966 showed a mild increase 70-67.

during the month of February (the index being 174) and continued at the same level in March 1966. During April the index has risen to 175 to be followed by a progressive rise in the succeeding months. The index showed a sharp increase from 175 in April to 181 in May 1966. The index again spurted to 185 in June and to 188 in July 1966. Rising further the index stood at 190 in August 1966, recording a increase of 11.7% over the corresponding month of the previous year. Again the index firmed up to 191 in September and to 192 in October 1966. The months of November and December witnessed a further increase in the index, the indices being 194 and 197 respectively.

PART II

KERALA

The economy of Kerala has certain special features and problems of its own. A feature of utmost concern is its high density and the rate of growth of population. About 3.85% of the population of the Indian Union live in Kerala, though the area of the State is only 1.27% of the area of the country. The average density of 435 persons per sq. km. Imagitimes the all India average of 144 per sq.km. The importance of agricultural sector in the economy of the State can be seen from the fact that it contributed about 55% of the State income during 1964-65.

The heavy pressure on land, the acute degree of unemployment and under-employment and the chronic shortage of food are but the natural consequences of a fast growing population and the very low level of living as indicated by the per capita income and percapita consumption expenditure, which are below the national averages. Again, the strides made in the advancement of education and social welfare, without adequate growth in the economy have created complete problems.

AGRICULTURE

The pivotal importance of agriculture in the economy of our State needs scarcely be emphasised. During the last 15 years, the was considerable increase in the area and production of principal crops in Kerala.

There has been a significant stepping up of development efforts in agricultural since the inception of the I Five Year Plan. As a result of planned efforts, the food production rose from 6.01 lakh tonnes in 1950-51 to 8.70 lakhs tonnes at the end of the I Plan and to 10.50 lakh tonnes at the end of the II Plan period. The III Plan target for rice production was, 14.38 lakh tonnes to be achieved in 1965-66. During 1963-64 the production of rice increased to 11.28 tonnes as against 10.04 during 1961-62 and 10.93 during 1962-63. However the succeeding two years 1964-65 and 1965-66 were years of serious drought and consequently food grains production suffered a serious setback. The shortfall in the anticipated targets of area under irrigation and the non-availability of fertilisers to the required extent have

also contributed to the set back in agricultural production.

Food Problem:

In contrast to the growing demand, the production of food in the country did not increase rapidly. The in-elasticity of supply was the result of a number of factors. First, there was a relative stagnation of per capita availability. Secondly, increase of cultivated area did not keep pace with the growth of population. Thirdly, a relatively large part of the increase in total cultivated area that occurred was for the cultivation of commercial crops.

Food production during 1965-66 suffered a severe setback, mainly on account of the failure of monsoon. This resulted in the shortfall of rice production. Almost all parts of the State have been experiencing draught conditions during the winter and summer crops of 1965-66.

The production of rice was only 9.97 lakh tonnes in 1965-66 as against 11.00 lakh tonnes in 1964-65. The production in 1900-36 was even lower to 1 the production figure of 10.50 last terms during 1960-61.

27,000 to the over the previous year, the winter crop witnessed a fall of 120,000 tonnes and the summer crop 31,000 tonnes. The net result was a fall in production of 1,24,000 tonnes.

The rice crop for the calendar year comprises the winter and summer crops of 1965-66 and the autumn crop of 1966-67. Adding together, the production figures for the above 3 seasons the production for the year 1966 was found to be only 9.74 lakh tonnes. Deducting 10% for seed, wastage etc. the quantity available for consumption in 1966 was only 8.77 lakh tonnes.

Rice imports during 1966 amounted to 7.52 lakh tonnes. Thus the total availability for consumption was 16.29 lakh tonnes. It works out to a daily percapita availability of 234 gms. (8.25 oz.).

The total requirement of cereals worked out at the rate of 12 oz. per capita per day for 1966 would be 23.7 lakh tonnes.

Against this, the total availability of all cereals for consumption in 1966 was only 19.42 lakh tonnes.

Thus there was a shortage of over 4 lakh tonnes of cereals in 1966 which explains the high prices of rice in the open market.

Trends in Production

Food grains:

The index of foodgrains production has receded from 125.8 in 1964-65 to 112.1 in 1965-66, recording a decline of 10.9%.

Taking the III Plan period the index of foodgrains production has declined from the 1960-61 level of 119.8 to 112.1 in 1965-66.

The index of rice production which stood at 126.3 in 1964-65 has declined to 112.4 in 1965-66. Over the III Plan period, the index of rice production has fallen from 120.2 in 1960-61 to 112.4 in 1965-66, registering a decline of 6.5%. Also the index number showing the trend in productivity has receded from 117.8 in 1960-61 to 106.9 in 1965-66, registering a decline of 9.3%.

Sugarcane:

The production of sugarcane during 1965-66 has been 40,948 tonnes as against last year's production of 44,034 tonnes. However during the III Plan period the index for sugarcane production has increased from 106.4 in 1960-61 to 114.4 in 1965-66, recording a rise of 7.5%.

Pepper:

The production of pepper has declined from 22,228 tonnes in 1964-65 to 21,685 tonnes in 1965-66. Over the III Plan period the Index number of production of pepper has receded from 99.2 in 1960-61 to 73.6 in 1965-66 recording a decline of 19.8%.

Ginger:

The production of ginger in 1965-06 was estimated to be 11,190 tonnes as against the last year's production of 11,328 tonnes, The index number of ginger production has moved down from 103.6 in 1960-61 to 102.9 in 1965-66, registering a decline of 0.7% over the III Plan period.

Turmeric:

The production of turmeric in 1965-66 was estimated to be 3766 tonnes as the previous year's production of 3910 tonnes. The index of production has declined from 99.7 in 1960-61 to 89.8 in 1965-66, showing a decline of 9.9%.

Cardamom:

The production of cardamom maintained the same level as in the previous year. Also the index of production remained more or less the same over the III Plan period, the indices being 100.2 in 1960-61 and 100.4 in 1965-66.

Arecanut:

In 1965-66, the area under arecanut stood at 64478 hectares as against 59488 hectares in 1964-65. The production in 1965-66 was 9681 million nuts as against 8945 million nuts in 1964-65.

The index showing the change in area under arecanut has increased from 109.3 in 1960-61 to 135:6 in 1965-66. The trend in production can be noted from the Index number of production which went up from 116.9 in 1960-61 to 146.1 in 1965-66.

Cashewnut:

In 1965,66, the area under cashewnut stood at 87366 hectares, as against 85975 hectares in 1964-65. The production in 1965-66 has increased from 96463 tonnes in 1964-65to 98025 tonnes in 1965-66.

The index showing the area under cashewnut went up from 145.2 in 1960-61 to 149.6 in 1965-66. The index number showing the trend in production has gone up from 144.2 in 1960-61 to 167.0 in 1965-66, recording an increase of 15.8% over the period.

Tapioca:

In 1965-66, the area under tapioca was 229684 hectares as against 209372 hectares in 1964-65. The production of of tapioca has gone up from 27.63 lakhs tonnes in 1964-65 to 30.96 lakh tonnes in 1965-66. The index number of production of tapioca has moved up from 116.4 in 1960-61 to 123.8 in 1965-66, registering an increase of 6.4% over the III Plan period.

Rubber:

The State occupies a unique position with regard to to the production of rubber in the country contributing as much as 93% of it. There has been a growing demand for rubber since 1955-56. Though the production of natural hor rubber showed a steady uptrend during the last one decade, it could meet only about half of the total consumption requirements.

The area under rubber reached 150 thousands hectares in 1965-66 as against 147 thougands hectares in 1964-65. The pace of increase in the area under rubber was 5.4 thousand hectares per annum during the III Plan period.

The area under improved varieties of rubber has kept up the steadily increasing trend during 1965-66. The percentage of area under improved varieties increased from 45 as at the end of 1964-65 to 50 at the end of 1965-66.

India's production of natural rubber forms only a little over 2% of the world output of the commodity.

The production of rubber in the State has increased from 40065 tonnes in 1964-65 to 46953 tonnes in 1965-66. During the III Plan period, the index number of rubber production rose from 106.4 in 1960-61 to 216.8 in 1965-66, registering an increase of 103.8%.

Tea:

The area under tea plantation in the State showed a slight increase from 39356 hectares in 1964-65 to 39470 hectares in 1965-66. But the production of tea during the period has declined from 42075 tonnes to 39154 tonnes. This was mainly on account of a set-back in the productivity of the crop.

The index number of tea production has moved up from 116.3 in 1960-61 to 121.1 in 1965-66, registering an increase of 4.1% over the III Plan period. The index number of trend in productivity of tea has moved down from 122.4 in 1960-61 to 122.0 in 1965-66.

Coffee:

The all India production of coffee declined from 70 thousandstonnes in 1963-64 to 60 thousand tonnes in

1964-65. The production for 1965-66 is estimated at 63 thousand tonnes.

In Kerala on the other hand, the trend in production for the last few years is one of steady increase. The production which stood at 8.57 thousand tonnes in 1963-64 went up to 9.69 thousand tonnes in 1964-65 and 9.83 thousand gonnes in 1965-66. The index of production (base 1956-57 & 100) rose from 110.8 in 1960-61 to 147.1 in 1965-66, registering an increase of 33.4%. over the III Plan period. However, it may be noted that the trend in productivity of coffee in the State is on the decline. The index number of productivity of coffee in 1965-66 stood at 90.7 as against 95.5 in 1960-61.

PRICE BEHAVIOUR

The short falls in agricultural production, combined with the increased aggregate spending in the economy contributed to an alround rise in prices. The III Plan period witnessed a steep increase in prices, especially the prices of agricultural commodities. Major part of the price increase was concentrated during the period beginning from 1964. Price movements for the period are briefly discussed in the following paragraphs.

Wholesale Price Index Number of Agriculturel Commodities: -

All Crops:

The wholesale price index (base 52-53 = 100) moved up from 163 in 1965 to 174 in 1966, registering an increase of 11.5% and 11.8% during the previous two years. Also it is seen that the general index has increased from 1186 in 1961 to 174 in 1966, recording an increase of 38%. During 1966, the months of April and May witnessed the highest level of prices. There was large increase in the prices of condiments and spices.

Rice:

Consequent on the fixation of maximum prices of rice and paddy by Government, there was practically no wholesale transa-action in the open market of these commodities and as such frair price of rice is taken for computation of index. Hence the index of rice is not strictly comparable with the indeces

of earlier periods.

Molasses:

The commodity registered a subdued trend in 1965, but by 1966 it maintained higher levels than those in 1964. The index number moved up from 131 in December 1965 to 184 in December 1966, registering an increase of about 40.4%.

Condiments and spices:

The prices of condiments and spices were on the whole dull during the year under report. The index which stood at 178 in 1965 declined to 158 in 1966, registering a fall of 11.24%. However, during the month of April the index rose to 184 and continued at the same level in May, recording an increase of 16.5% over that an May 1966. The index stood at 154 in July to be followed by a firming up during August and September, the indices being 163 and 166 respectively. The index, thereafter, declined to 140 in October. During the months of November and December 1966, the index for condiments and spices exhibited a mild increase and stood at 148 in November and 151 in December 1966.

Fruits and Vegetables:

The prices of fruits and vegetables continued its upward movement during the year under report. The index moved up from 147 in December 1965 to 176 in December1966, registering an increase of 19.7%. From 143 in March the index reached by Seeptember 1966, to be followed by a mild decline during the following menths.

Food Crcps Group:

In the case of food crops too, the prices exhibited an upward trend. The index rose from 140 in December 1965 to 157 in December 1966, recording an increase of 12.1%.

Oil Seeds:

The upward trend in the prices of oil seeds noted by the end of 1965 was reversed during the first three months of 1966. The index which stood at 287 in December 1965 recorded to 251 by March 1966, thereby registering a fall of 36 points. This was followed by a slight increase in April. The index again declined and continued its downward course till July 1966 reaching the minimum level at 210. During August it recovered to the level in June 1966; followed by slight decreases during the subsequent

two menths. The index moved up to 238 in November and 250 in December 1966.

Plantation Crops:

In the case of plantation crops the average prices were higher during the year, compared to the prices prevailed during 1965. The average index for 1966 was 130, dompared to 114 in 1965. The index which stood at 121 in December 1965 marked to 136 in January 1966 and to 137 in February 1966. A marked increase of 15 points was seen during April. The indices fluctuated between 132 and 135 during the succeeding four months. From September onwards the index exhibited a declining trend. It touched the level of 116 in November, and recorded a rise of 6 points in December 1966.

Non food crops:group:

The prices of non-food grops group as a whole were higher than the previous year's prices. The average index for 1966 stood at 209 as against 195 during the previous year recording an increase of 7.2%. More or less a steady decline was seen till July 1966 and the index recorded the minimum value of 186. The index slowly picked up again in August by 17 points to be followed by slight declines during the next two months. November and December displayed an upswing.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBERS

The Working class consumer price Index Number for selected centres in Kerala during the last 6 years are furnished in Table No. Trivandrum, Alleppey, Changanacherry and Trichur are some of the centres where the rise in index was very high. Compared to 1965, the induces of these centres rose by 70, 70,67 and 71 points respectively. The rise was minimum at Punalur with 46 points. During the year under report, the average index for the State rose by 59 points against a rise of \$154 points during the previous year. The average index which stood at 478 during 1961 has risen to 673 in 1966 recording an increase of 40.8%.

The working class Consumer Price Index in Kerala moved up from 653 in January 1966 to 701 in December 1966, pecording an increase of 7.4%. During the months of February and March 1966, the indices exhibited a mild decline. The index declined from 653 in January 1966 to 648 in February and to 640 in March 1966. From the month of April onwards, it began a strident rise and

70-67.

stood at 679 in June 1966, recording a rise of 10% over the corresponding a risemonth of the previous year. Again the index spurted to 683 in July and to 688 in August registering a rise of 11.6 and 11.5% respectively, over the corresponding months of the previous year. The index fell in September by 2 points followed by a gain of 5 points in 1966. During November 1966, the general index was 693 which again spurted to 701 in December 1966 registering an increase of 7.9% and 7.5% respectively over the levels of the corresponding months of the previous year.

The general index rose from 614 in 1965 to 673 in 1966. This rise in the general index was mainly due to the rise in the price of food articles.

Food group Index:

The food group index moved up from 794 in 1965 to 889 in 1966, recording an increase of 12.0%. The good-group index showed an increase of 72 points over the year ie. January to December 1966.

The food group index stood at 858 in January 1966 recording an increase of 13% over the corresponding month of the previous year. As in the case of the general index, there was a slight fall in the food group index during the amonths of February and March, the indices being 849 and 836 respectively. Thereafter, the indices exhibited a steady upward trend. The indices for the months of February and March were higher by 12.3% and 10.3% when compared to the level in the corresponding periods of the previous year. From the month of April onwards, the food group index made a steep rise till October 1966, registering an increase ranging the tween 10% an over the level prevailed in the corresponding months of the last year. The index rose to 930 in December 1966.

Parity index:

The index of parity (ie. the percentage ratio of prices received to prices paid by the farmers) is a barometer of the extent to: which rising prices benefit agricultural classes. The parity index below 100 indicates, that the prices of farmer's commodity have not risen in proportion to those of the goods he buys.

A comparison of the parity indices for the last 13 years leads us to conclude that the rate of increase in respect of domestic expenditure and cultivation cost is much faster than that in the index of prices received by farmers. (vide Table). But a welcome trend was noticed in 1965 and 1966. The prices received by farmers rose by 41.1% in 1965 and 48.4% in 1966 while the praces paid rose only by 10.9% in 1965 and 24.5% in 1966 compared to the prices prevailed in 1964. Thus rise in the index of parity was mainly on account of the high prices of commodities like paddy, coconut, banana and cashewnut.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Cocoanut oil:

The III Plan period witnessed a persistent upward trend in prices of cocoanut oil. Over the period from 1961 to 1966, the rise in price of cocoanut oil has been of the order of about 90%. During the year 1966, the prices of cocoanuts oil exhibited a mixed trend. However, compared to the prices of 1965, the 1966 prices (average) showed an increase at all the centres, the rate of increase ranging from 4.6% at Alleppey to 7.9% at Kozhikode. Fail in the prices of Copra, lack of external demand and the decision of the Government of India to liberalise the import of Ceylon copra are the main reasons for the mixed trend in the prices of cocoanut oil, December 1966 prices lowering 13.1% than December 1965 prices.

During January 1966, the prices of cocoanut oil displayed duliness at all centres. The price has moved down from the December 1965 level of Rs.533.85 to Rs.500.84/quintal at Alleppey. At Kozhikode, the price has receded by Rs.15.50/Ql. Similar declining trend was noticed at all other centres in the State. But, compared to the corresponding period of last year, the price of coconut oil in January 1966 was up by Rs.181.74/Ql. at Alleppey and Rs.194.35/Ql. a. Kozhikode.

During the months of February and March, the prices of cocoanutoil, exhibited a further softening to be followed by firming up in the monthwof April. The price of cocoanut oil, at Alleppey, receded from Rs.469.94 to Rs.431.96%Ql. in March. Similarly an easy trend was noticed in oil prices at all other centres in the State. Oil prices maintained higher levels in April 1966 compared to those in the previous month.

During the period from May to July, prices of cocoanut oil witnessed a bearish sentiment in the market. Paucity of demand, meagre contracts and lack of enquiries from trading interests have brought about this easy trend in prices. The prices receded from the April quotation of Rs.454.00 to Rs. Rs.412.50/Ql. at Alleppey and from Rs.460.00 to 432.00 at Kozhikode in July 1966. Similar downward movement in prices was observed at other centres too.

In August, the quotation soared up from Rs.412.50 to Rs.435.00 at Alleppey and from 432.00 to Rs.458.75 at Kozhi-kode. A tight supply position occasioned by meagre arrivals, coupled with enhanced demand from Madras, Andhra Pradesh and Bombay anticipating Deepavali Festival, contributed to the bullish sentiment in the market. The months of September and October witnessed a receding trend with the quotations closed at Rs.430.83 at Alleppey and Rs.438.33 at Kozhikode.

During the months of November and December 1966, prices of cocoanut oil registered a significant increase, mainly as a result of good demand and shortage of supply. Besides, though the Central Government have decided to liberalise the import of copra, actual licenses were not issued. At Alleppey, cocoanut oil gained by Rs.43.50/Ql. in December over the July level of prices: At Kozhikode the prices of cocoanut oil rose from Rs.432.00 in July to Rs.461.05 by the end of the period under report.

Copra:

The period from 1961 has 1966 has been characterised by a persistent upward trend in prices. Over the 5 year period, the rise has been about 88% at Quilon, 87% at Alleppey, 86% at Kozhikode and 98% at Cochin. Compared to the average prices Which prevailed in 1965, the 1966 prices were higher at all centres except at Kozhikode, Wheretthe rates maintained more The rise in price was of the order or less the same level. of 5% at Quilon and Alleppey. During 1966, a bearish sentiment was observed in the copra market compared to the levels existed in December 1965. The easy trend in the copra market at Alleppey during the major part of the year was attributed to subdued demand from Bombay and Calcutta, coupled with limited local demand. The decision to import Ceylon Copra had also its impact on the market trends. December 1966 prices lower by 13.3% than December 1965 prices.

During January 1966, the prices of copra moved down-wards at almost all centres. The price has moved down from the December quotation of Rs.354.00 to Rs.338.75/Ql. at Alleppey from Rs.342.00 to Rs.326.25/Ql. at Trichur and from Rs.333.00 to 321.25/Ql. at Kozhikode. But compared to the corresponding period of last year, the price of copra recorded a rise of Rs.122.95/Ql. at Alleppey, Rs.113.95 at Changanacherry, Rs.108.75 at Trichur and Rs.100.37 at Kozhikode.

The months of February and March also exhibited a sharp decline in prices. The reason reported for the downward movement was more arrivals. The extent of decline in March 1966; was as much as Rs.62.50/Ql. at Quilon, Rs.56.25/Ql. at Alleppey and Rs.53.75/Ql. at Kozhikode. (in comparison with the January 1966 prices). In April 1966, copra prices recorded some rise over the previous month's levels in the important markets of the State. Prices of copra at Quilon went up from March quotation of Rs.270.00/Ql. to Rs.293.00, from Rs.282.50 to Rs.295.00 at Alleppey and from Rs.267.50 to Rs.283.75 at Kozhikode A similar trend prevailed in the other markets too. The pullish tendency in the prices of copra was due to the bright demand for export purposes and heavy purchases by local mills.

In May and June, almost all the centres witnessed a general decline in the price level, caused by slackened demand. Also arrivals of copra were considerably higher in view of the peak season. Reduced enquiry from Bombay buyers pushed down the prices of copra at Kozhikode by Rs.30/Ql. to Rs.430/Ql. in June 1966. The price declined by Rs.20.00/Q. in June compared to the April quotation and ruled at the reduced level of L. Rs.275.00/Ql. at Alleppey. Similarly at Cochin he quotation declined from Rs.301.00 in April to Rs.277.25/Ql. in June. No remarkable fluctuations in prices were seen during July 1966.

In August 1966, prices recorded an increase. The increase was more pronounced in centres like Quilon, Alleppey and Changanacherry than at other centres. A tight supply position occasioned by seasonal conditions contributed to the bullish sentiment in the market. The prices of copra climbed up by Rs.24.25/Ql. at Quilon and Rs.28.50/Ql. at Changanacherry, compared to the previous month's level. During September copra market was subjected to slight fluctuations at various centres and on balance recorded some decline on account of fell in demand and the reaction following the announcement of the import of Ceylon copra.

During the months of October, November and December 1966, an upward movement was observed in the copra prices and it was due to bright demand as well as shortage of supply of the commodity. Prices of copra ruled at Rs. Rs.308.75/Ql. at Quilon, at Rs.309.50 at Alleppey and at Rs.292.00 at Kozhikode.

Coconut 0il Cake:

Similar to the behaviour to the prices of copra and coconut oil, oil cake market exhibited a maxed trend during the year 1966. However, compared to the price situation in 1965, the average prices of oilcake maintained a higher level in 1966 at all the important market centres, the rate of increase varying from 9% at Kozhikode and 14% at Alleppey. Also the 1966 level of prices have been higher by 95% at Alleppey, by 100% at Kozhikode and by 88% at Cochin over the 1961 price level.

During January 1966, the price of cilcake receded from Rs.84.20 in December 1965 to Rs.79.75/Qtl. at Alleppey. The month of February 1966 witnessed a further set back and the prices declined by Rs.5.50/Ql. at Alleppey, Rs.9.50/Ql. at Kozhikode and Rs.11.25 at Trichur. The February level of prices ruled in the month of March also with mild fluctuations.

The months of April, May and June witnessed a higher level of prices. The prices firmed up to Rs.84.75/Ql. at Alleppey, Rs.84.00/Ql. at Kozhikode and Rs.82.75/ at Trichur during the month of May. Oilcake was in demand for use as fertiliser/sizable export demand also persisted in the market.

An easy trend in prices was noted in the month July to be followed by a hardening up in August 1966.

Again from September to November 1966 prices of oilcake ruled at lower levels. This was followed by a slight increase during December 1966.

Coir:

At Alleppey, during 1966, the prices of Anjengo coir were almost uniform around previous year's level. Arrattupuzha variety of coir registered an increase of Rs.8.96/Ql. over the previous year's level while parur variety at Mattancherry recorded a gain of Rs.3.18/Ql. At Kozhikode the Quilandy variety gained by Rs.18.34/Ql. to the average level of Rs.110.76. The gain for Beypore variety

was also to almost the same extent ie. Rs.18.63.

During the first three months of the period under review, the market for Quilandy variety at Kozhikode exhibited slight signs of firming up, While more or less steady conditions prevailed in other markets.

During April Anjengo yarn showed a subdued trend, while Arrattupuzha coir and Parur (thin) registered an increase. Slightly improved demand conditions pushed up the price of Beypore yarn sold in Kozhikode Market. The variations noted in the subsequent months were trivial.

During June a slight fall was noticed in the price of Anjengo variety while a mild increase was noted in the price of Arrattupuzha variety. However, in June, the market was gripped by uncertainty. Devaluation of rupee has brightened up the competitive position of coir in international market. At the same time quite a few formidable problems have cropped up. The export duty of 10% advalorem has made the traders cautious.

In July 1966 an upward tendency was observed in the prices of Anjengo coir at Alleppey due to bright demand and tight supply position. The prices firmed up to Rs.121.20/Q1. from the June quotation of Rs.118.50. This superior variety was largely demanded and transacted in the market. Good demand from foreign countries pushed up the price of Quilandy variety by Rs.12.70/Q1. at Kozhikode. The quantity of off take has also improved at this centre.

From August Anjengo coir market at Alleppey displayed a continuous upward movement. The price has spurted to Rs.125.00/Qls. in August, followed by a further rise by Rs.4.70/Ql. during September. The October quotation rose by Rs.4.63/Ql. to be firmed up again by a mild rise of Rs.1.77/Ql. to Rs.136.00 in November 1966. Limited supply along with better demand was reported to be the reason for this upward trend.

Similar was the trend in prices of Arrattupuzha variety at Alleppey. The August quotation of Rs.115.50 has gradually gone up to Rs.127.40/Ql. in December 1966. The Parur (thin) vafiety at Mattancherry whowed an improvement in prices during October, registering an increase of Rs.10.50/Ql. over the previous month's level. The October quotation of Rs.118.50 has receded to Rs.113.50/Ql. in November 1966.

Both Quilandy and Beypore varieties at Kozhikode witnessed

a bullish sentiment during the period from August to November 1966, registering an increase of 5% and 19% respectively. The arrivals of the commodity in the market was on the wane, while the increased demand persisted 4 during the period.

During December 1966, coir prices displayed a mixed trend. The price of Anjengo variety at Alleppey has receded by Rs.2/Ql. Limited supply combined with increased demand from centres like Bombay enhanced the price of Arattupuzha and Parur varieties of yarn. Both Quilandy and Beypore varieties witnessed a fall in price by Rs.5/- and Rs.2.50 respectively during the month.

Black Pepper:

The prices of Black pepper exhibited no significant improvement during the III Plan period. Compared to the 1961 prices, the 1966 prices have been higher only by 3% at Nedumangad and Alleppey. The rate of increase was more or less the same at other centres also.

During 1966, the prices of Black Pepper ruled more or less steady compared to the situation in 1965.

In January 1966, black pepper prices suffered a slight set back at Adoor, Alleppey, Tellicherry and Taliparamba. The prices has moved down from the December quotation of Rs.342.00 to Rs.333.75/.QL at Adoor (local dried), from Rs.360.19 to Rs.354.78/Ql at Alleppey (Palai variety) and from Rs.367.00 to Rs.355/Ql at Tellicherry (Wynadan). However, the prices ruled higher at other centres like Nedumangad, Ponkunnam, Thodupuzha and Mattancherry.

During the month of February 1966, prices of black pepper exhibited an upward movement to be followed by a softening in March 1966. In February 1966 the pepper prices went up by Rs.3.00/Ql. at Alleppey, Rs.8.75/Ql. at Thodupuzha (ungarbled), Rs.2.50/Ql. at Kozhikode (Wynadan) and Rs.18.75/Ql. at Adoor. The reason reported for upward trenl in February was increased demand. Compared to the situation in February 1965, the prices at Nedumangad, Alleppey, Ponkunnam, Thodupuzha, Kozhikode and Taliparamba maintained higher levels.

At most of the centres, the market for pepper was rather dull in March 1966. The drop in prices per quintal

was of the order of Rs.1.25 at Nedumangad, Rs.7.17 at Alleppey, Rs.7.50 at Mattancherry, Rs.4.37 at Kozhikode and Rs.2.50 at Tellicherry. Lack of demand from outside was the cause reported for the decline. Compared to the price in March 1965, the quotations in March 1966 were lower at almost all centres.

In April, the price of black pepper has moved forward in most of the centres, registering an increase of Rs.9.04/Ql. at Alleppey (Palai variety), and Rs.10.75/Ql. at Kozhikode (Wynadan variety).

During the succeeding onth, in most of the markets, the prices () layed a slightly easier tendency. The easy tendency was attriated to tired bull on loading in the face of a very restricted buying enquiry.

From the month of June onwards the lethargic conditions noticed in the lab few months have disappeared. With the decision of the Government of India to devalue the rupee, there was a revival in the American interest. The American buyers entered the market and placed further orders.

Also some new important features intered into the picture of black pepper market. They include:-

- 1) tilateral trade agreement between Russia and India
- .) ottlement of traffic strike in New York
- 3) economic crisis in Indonesia.

In view of the above, black pepper tured a corner and almost all the arrivals were to en by exporters for meeting the commitment to Russia, East European countries and the U.S.A.

Bueyant condition pre 111 in the black pepper market especially in the month of July .

One strengthening factor was the decision of the Government of India to include black pepper in the 11 commodities which are to be exempted from the lavy of export duty on contracts entered into on or before 10.5th. The permission given to exporters to make up their rupse prices by 47.5% or pending contracts with Russia has further altocorraged expansion of export demand for black pepper. East European countries have started making purchase. American buyers too have been active. Sizable quantity have been sold to U.S. up to 42 cents a 1b. Compared to the prices in May (ie. period just before devaluation) there was an increase of 22% at Neduringad, 23% at Cochin and 29% at Kozhikode.

In September 1966, black pepper ruled weak showing a loss of Rs.33.68 per Ql. at Nedumangad, Rs.36.30 at Alleppey, Rs.40.63 at Cochin and Rs.45.00 at Kozhikode, due th reduced export demand. Palai variety at Alleppey registered a decline of about 8% despite reduced arrivals of the commodity into the market. Other centres also displayed a declining trend. Both the arrivals and off take of the commodity have been considerably diminished during the month.

Eventhough there was a slight fall in prices in October 1966 in the pepper market, signs of an upward movement were noted at Cochin and Kozhikode.

During the months of November and December 1966, the trend of the market remained uncertain, as tired feelings were felt in the market. The Bulls became disheartened as the market failed to show any noticeable improvement, foreign markets having remained in deldrum.

Russia, after buying a sizable quantity has been cautious and the U.S.A. has been almost totally out of the market.

The main factor for the lack of export demand is the lower prices quoted by other producing countries. Indonesia's offer is 34 cents, while that of Brazhil is 31 cents a 1b. In these circumstances, it is quite natural that American buyers are not inclined to show any interest in Indian pepper which is quoted at 37 cents and the Russian buyers too are expecting a further fall in prices.

Black pepper quoted at Rs.352.80/Qtl. at Nedumangad, Rs.377.20 at Alleppey, Rs.387.70 at Cochin and Rs.389.00 Kozhikode in December 1966.

Ginger:

The price of ginger, which exhibited a bullish trend during 1965, showed a declining trend in 1966. Compared to the price level in 1965, the price of ginger in 1966 has been lower by about 13% at Alleppey, 12% at Cochin and 19% at Kozhikode. The easy trend in prices during the year was attributed mainly to the lack of export demand. However, it may be noted that the 1966 level of prices is higher by about 108% at Alleppey, 113% at Cochin and 106% at Kozhikode than the prices prevailed in 1961.

During the months of January, February and March 1966, the price of ginger exhibited a declining trend. The prices during the period maintained lower levels when compared to the prices prevailed in the corresponding period of the previous year. From Rs.261.00/Qt1. in December 1965 the

prices softened to Rs.243.90 during January in at Alleppey. At Kozhikode, the price receded by Rs.4.75/ during January 1966. The prices declir at Fs.225.61 at Alleppey and Rs.235.00 at Kozhikode in March 196

The month of April witnessed an upward movement in prices, followed by a drop in May.

Prices of ginger exhibited a gradual rising trend in the months of June, July and August 1966. There was a sharp increase in price in August 1966, when the quotat of firmed up from Rs. Rs.240.38/Qtl. in May 1966, to Is.310.14/Qtl. (at Alleppey). During the same period, the increase in prices were of the order of 26% at Cochin and 38% at Kozhikode. The brisk demand from shippers from Bombay has led to price improvement in the terminal markets in Kerala. There has been a fresh flow forders from buyors, after the devalation of the rupee. Also, the virtual stoppage of supply by African countries, as their season has come to an end, has Helped to boost up demand for Indian ginger.

During the months of October and November 1966, a bearish sentiment was noticed in ginger aces, to be followed by a mild rise in the month of December 1966. The dult conditions in October and November 1966 in the ginger marker was mainly due to the absence of encouraging foreign enquiries especially from Gulf countries. Fall in export demand and transactions pushed down the prices of ginger in November 1966 by about 16% at Cochin and by 12% at Kozhikole (compared with the level of prices in August 1966).

Lemone : 1:

compared to the prices prevailed in 1961, the price of lemongrass oil registered a decline, the extent of decrease being 25% at Cochin, 23% at Alwaye and 15% at Kozhikode.

However, when compared to the position in 1965, the 1966 level of prices registered a significant increase, the rate of increase being 53% at Cochin, 61% at Alwaye and 57% at Kozhikode.

Consequent on low demand for lemongrass oil, an easy trend in prices was evident during the months of January, February and March 1966, From April 1966 a bull continent was observed in the lemongrass oil market. This but, in prices continued reaching all-time high in the month of lugust. The short-fall in production coupled with active foreign enquiries pushed up the demand resulting in the upward movement of prices.

Ban .na:

The prices of banana tended to be higher during the III Plan period. Compared with the prices which prevailed in 1961, the prices of banana shor up by 53% at Punalur, 64% at Trivandrum 46% at Kozhikode, 48% at Palghat and 54% at Tellicherry in 1966. The 1966 prices of banana ruled higher than those in 1965 by 8% at Punalur 14% at Trivandrum, 7% at Kozhikode, 10% at Palghat and 25% at Tellicherry.

In January 1966 banana prices moved downwards at all centres with the exception of Trivandrum where the quotation rose by 40 ps. to Rs.15 per 100 Nos. In February 1966, the prices exhibited a more or less similar trend at Punalur, Trivandrum and Teldicherry the prices at Kozhikode and Palghat showed a tend rise. At Trivandrum, compared to the prices i en lary 1965, the February 1966 prices were higher by Rs.2' and stood at Rs.15/- per 100 Nos. Similarly banana I higher by Rs.0.50/100 at Tellicherry. At all of r control, the February 1966 prices maintained lower levels than those prevailed during the corresponding month of the previous year.

During the period from March to June 1966, the prices of banana rose steadily in most of the centres. The prices of banana rose from the February quotation of Rs. 10.50 to Rs.16.75/100 Nos. at Kozhikode. At Palghat, the prices hardened from Rs.9.13 to Rs.13.00/100 in June 1966. At Tellicherry the price of banana rose by Rs.2.63 to Rs.12.63 in June 1966. However, at Trivandrum, banana price dropped from Rs.15.00 in February 1966 to Rs.14.31 in June 1966. During the months of July and August 1966, the prices exhibited a declining trend except at Trivandrum and Punalur. At Kozhikode the price has receded from Rs.16.75 in June to 12.75in August 1966. At Palghat, the price has fallen from Rs.13.00 in June to Rs.11.63 in August 1966. At Punalur and Trivandrum, the prices rose by 33 ps. and 33 ps. respectively during the period. In September, the prices firmed up in most of the centres (except Punalur) to be followed by an easier trend in the month of October 1966. During November 1966 a steadier trend in prices was witnessed to be followed by a recession in December 1966.

RETAIL PRICES

Food grains prices:

The food grains prices accupy a pivotal place in the price structure. This is obvious from the fact that it is food prices which determine the direction of general price index. Like a 'weather cock' food prices do indicate faithfully the direction of the general price level.

Rice:

In the case of rice, the impact of the fall in production and market arrivals, on the price level has been in evidence through out the year 1966.

Statutory rationing introduced in October 1965, was in force throughout the year. However, the scale of ration of rice was reduced from 160 gms. to 120 gms. per adult per day with effect from 1-4-1966. Also during the first week thril 1966, the fair price of rice recorded a mild increase in thing to the refixation of price by the Government.

During the month of January 1966, the price of rice in the open market indicated an increase. This increase was particularly noted in Trivandrum and Ernakulam. At all other was, the price remained more or less steady at the level of Decement 1965.

During the period from February to June 1906, the rice prices at almost all centres in the state registed at all, compared to the prices prevailed in January 1966. Large arrivals of rice in the market was reported to be the reason for this trend.

from July 1966 onwards the price of rice registered a marked increase to be followed by a mild decline in September and October 1966. To price in the open market exhibited a sharp rise during the month of December 1966.

On a comparison with the prices during the corresponding month of the previous year, price in December 1966 exhibited an increase of 36% at Trivandrum, 44% at Quilon 20% much at Trichur and Kozhikode.

Corriander: -

At almost all the centres in the State, the prices of corriander exhibited a bullish trend during the year under review. The average prices of corriander in 1966 showed an increase range between 20% to 32% in the different centres, compared to the

average prices prevailed during 1965. The increase was most significant at Palghat where the rise was of the order of 82 ps./Kg.

The prices of corriander, which was high during December 1965 continued to persist during January 1966 also. However, the prices displayed a downward trend during the month of February and March 1966, with the exception of Palghat where the prices exhibited a hardening trend. From April 1966 omwards corriander prices showed an increase at almost all the centres. This was the result of the scarcity of the commodity in the market. During the month of December however the prices of corriander showed a downward trend at almost all the centres and it was due to large arrivals of the commodity in the market.

Chillies: -

During the year under report, the prices of chillies spurted to dizzy heights at all centres. The rate of increase in prices varied between 75% to 101%, when compared to the the prices prevailed in 1965. The rise in p : e during the the year was 75% at Trivandrum, 85% at Quilon, 91% at Alleppey, 94% at Ernakulam, 83% at Trichur, at 93% at Kozhikode and 101% at Cannanore.

During the month of January 1966, the prices of chillies continued to be quoted at almost the same level of prices prevailed in December 1965. But a declining trend was witnessed at Trivandrum where the quotation was Rs.4.00/Qtl. as against the December quotation of Rs.2.25/Qtl.

During the months of February and March chillies prices displayed a downward movement. However from the month of April onwards, the prices started rising and an abnormal spurt in prices was notices in the month of July 1966. At Trivandrum the July quotation stood at Rs.5.55/Kg. as against the July 1965 quotation of Rs.2.60/kg. registering an increase of 113%. Similar trend in prices was witnessed at all other centres, the percentage of increase being 129 at Quilon, 125% at Ernakulam and 146% at Kozhikode. The limited arrivals of the commodity in the market and the sharp rise in prices at the origin were the causes for the increase in prices. The prices of chillies at all the centres further firmed up during the rest of the year. During the month of October 19663 the

quotation reached its peak level. The October quotation was placed at Rs.7.75/Kg. at Trivandrum recording an increase of Rs.2.20/kg. over the July prices. At Ernakulam the prices of chillies stood at Rs.8.38/kg. gaining Rs.2.42 over the July prices. At Kozhikode, during October 1966, the chillies prices firmed up to Rs.7.38/kg. gaining Rs.2.13 over the July price.

However, during the months of November and December 1966 the prices of chillies recorded some decline. The price in December has softened losing Rs.O.73/kg. at Trivandrum over the October prices. A corresponding decline was witnessed at all other markets.

Onions:

An increasing trend was noticed in the prices of onions from the month of April onwards. But a sharp rise in prices was observed during the month of June. This was mainly attributed to the poor arrivals of the commodity in the market. The sharp rise in prices at the origin, on account of poor harvest during the year, has contributed to the bullish trend. At Trivandrum, the prices rose by Rs.0.51/kg. over the January prices. The price has gone up by 66 ps. at Quilon, 65 ps. at Alleppey 65 ps. at Ernakulam and 54 ps. at Kozhikode, over the price quotations prevailed in January 1966.

The upward movement continued from the month of August onwards. During December onions was quoted at Rs.1.10/kg. at Trivandrum, as against the quotation of Rs.0.40/kg. during the corresponding period of the previous year. Other centres too witnessed a similar trend in pr es.

Pulses:

A pronounced increasing trend in prices was noticed in the case of Blackgram in the pulses group.

The average prices of blackgram in 1966 showed an increase ranging between 24% at Trichur and 38% at Ernakulam over the 1965 level of prices. The prices of blackgram exhibited an increasing trend from the month of July onwards reaching the peak during the months of November and December 1966. Less arrival of the commodity in the market was reported to be the reason for the upward trend in prices

EDIBLE OILS

Gingelly oil:

During 1966, the prices of gingelly oil registered a rise. The high level of prices for gingell oil reached in November 1965 was more or less maintained 11 A 11 -1 exh 1966. During the month of May gingell o' bited a further increase at almost all the ontres. The question for gingelly oil again firmed up in June 1966. At Quilon, the price of gingelly oil rose by 57 ps./ltr. over the prices prevailed in April. The corresponding increases at other centres are: Alleppey 61 ps./ltr. Trichur 42 ps./ltr.; Kozhikode 64 ps./ltr. During the months of July, August and September 1966, price of gingelly oil witnessed a strident rise. During September 1966, the prices stood at Rs. 5.67/ltr. at Quilon, Rs.5.03/ltr. at Trichur and Rs.5.04/ltr. at Kozhikode. However, the prices showed a mild decline during October to be followed by a further softening during the months of November and December 1966. The price of gingelly oil during December 1966 at Quilon was Rs.5.10/ltr. compared to Rs.4.58/ltg. during December 1965. At Kozhikode the prices were Rs.4.70/ltr. in December 1966, as against Rs.4.40/ltr. in December 1965.

Coconut oil:

During January 1966, the price of cocoanut oil softened from the December 1965 quotation of Rs.5.70/ltr. to Rs.5.53/ltr. at Quilon, from Rs.5.10 to Rs.4.85 at Alleppey, from 5.36 to Rs.5.09 at Trichur and from Rs.5.22 to Rs.5.05 at Kozhikode. However cocoanut oil prices exhibited a mixed trend during the rest of the year. During the months of March, May and July, cocoanut oil prices exhibited a bearish tendency. November and December 1966, showed upw. rd trend. At Quilon, the price of cocoanut oil advanced from 4.45/ltr. in October to Rs.4.72 in December 1966. At Alleppey the December quotation stood at Rs.4.35/litre as against Rs.4.10/ltr. in October and Rs.5.10/ltr. in last December. At Kozhikode the quotation firmed up from Rs.4.23 in October to Rs.4.41 in December 1966 compared to Rs. 5.22 in December 1965.

"apioca:

During the year under review, the prices of tapioca (raw) exhibited a mild decline, compared to the prices

prevailed in 1965. The commodity became cheaper by 4 ps./kg. at Trivandrum, by 2 ps./kg. at Alleppey and Ernakulam and 4 ps./kg. at Kozhikode during the year.

Arecanut (Ripe)

Prices of arecanut displayed a declining trend during the year. At Trivandrum the average price has declined from Rs.4.99 in 1965 to Rs.3.60 in 1966, registering a decline of about 28%. Similarly, at Quilon arecanut prices, declined by 24.4%. At Trichur, the decline was only 17%. At Kozhikode the decline was 26%.

From January 1966 onwards arecanut prices gradually began to increase. This rising trend was observed till May 1966. Over the period from December 1965 to May 1966, the prices has gone up by 53% at Trivandum, 86% at Alleppey 69% at Trichur and 44% at Kozhikode. From July 1966, arecanut prices showed a progressive decline, to be followed by mild rise in December 1966.

Conclusion

-38-

It is generally recognised that planing for development has within its own womb the seeds of inflation. Increasing governmental outlays accompanied by expansion in private sector result in a rise of disposable money income which is not usually matched by a corresonding rise in aggregate production and supplies. This necessarily creates an inflationary situation. Inflation is therefore looked upon as an inevitable concomitant of the developmental process itself.

Though considered as inevitable, inflation is not regarded in most quarters as desirable. The main economic and social objection to inflation is that it brings in its train strident rise in prices which hits urfavourably the vulnerable sections of the society.

Price policy in a developing economy has to conventrate on two main objectives:

- (a) it must ensure that the movements of relative prices accord with the priorities and targets that have been set in the plan and
- (b) it must prevent any considerable rise in prices of essential goods that enter into the consumption of low income groups. Both these aspects were stressed during last three plan periods. Prices, however fluctuated widely in the I Plan period and they have shown a rising trend through the II Plan, period. At the commencement of the III Plan, the levels of wholesale prices and cost of living were already high. During the course of the III Plan period, a sharp all-round increase in prices has been in evidence.

The factors affecting the supply and demand and consequently the prices are complex. The large price increases during the year under review have been largely due to inadedequate increase in supplies of food and other essential commodities as well as continued increase in domestic expenditure, both public and private. For exercising an effective restraint on these price rises, it will be necessary to remedy the above factors as quickly and effectively as possible.

In an economy like ours where a substantial proportion of the expenditure incurred by families in the low income ranges is on foodgrains, reasonable stability of foodgrains prices is of vital importance. It has to be noted that an increase of one percent in income leads to about 0.7 to 0.8 percent increase in the demand for food articles. From the recent experiences, it would appear that it is the food prices

that act as the pace offer.

The main emphasis in price policy should be to ensure that a spiralling of costs, prices and money income through mutual interation is avoided. Firstly, steps should be taken for maintaining prices at reasonable levels through expansion of state participation and control of both wholesale and retail trade in respect of basic consumer goods like foodgrains, textiles, adible oils etc. Secondly an earnest attempt should be made to reduce the scope of automatic linkage between cost and price increases. The growth in industrial production has been tardy for during the third plan as a whole, the average annual increase in industrial production works out to about the accompared to the target of 11%. As in the case of essential consumer articles, it will be necessary to design specific measures for regulating the prices of industrial raw materials which have a significant bearing on the economy.

However, it may be borne in mind that holding the price line does not mean freezing the prices. It has a positive role to play in giving the farmers certain incentives by offering prices that would give them a certain profit margin. Since production of agricultural crops in India has a positive responsiveness to price changes, it is essential that encouragements should be given to farmers by providing a profit margin. Policies like grannteed minimum prices to the farmers, local storage and other facilities, open market operation etc. are suggested for combating probable fall in prices or for providing incentives to the farmers.

In respect of industrial raw materials too, price and distribution regulations have to be imposed with a view to ensuring economy in their utilisation and preventing undue increase in the prices of commodities produced from these raw materials. All these policies should aim at augmenting exports, and restrain domestic consumption. Again these policies should provide incent tives for additional investment and production.

An important element of price policy is fiscal and monetary discipline. Fiscal policy should aim at mopping up the excess purchasing power which pulls up demand above the level of available supplies. The quantum of taxation must be adequate to keep down consumption to the desired levels. In other words, fiscal policy must aim at restraining consumption and mobilising savings.

Monetary policy has to go hand in hand with fiscal policy. There has been a constant pressure towards credit creation and monetary expansion arising out of a low rate of savings and wide

opportunities for investment. The bank credits to Government and the private sectors are the main factors affecting expansion of money supply. The overall deficits shown in the budget statements do not give the real picture of deficit financing. The net bank credit to Government is more relevant. Monetary policy has to regulate the pace of credit creation through banks. Care must be taken to see that the scale and pace of development in the private sector is in line with the plan priorities. The private sector should not be allowed to exert undue pressure on the scarce resources available for investment. Speculative holding of commodities and accumulation of inventories need to be discouraged. The policy of selective credit controls followed by the R.B.I. has been supplemented by measures designed to restrict credit creation by banks. A system of penal rates on borrowing by banks beyond defined limits has been instate tuted by the Reserve Bank of India.

Without adequate fiscal and monetary discipline other regulatory measures cannot have the desired effect. But fiscal and monetary policy by themselves may not suffice. It may be necessary to have physical allocations and direct controls in certain sectors. The prime need of the moment to devise and implement measures for increased agricultural production should receive the urgent and earnest attention of one and all.

Selected Techomic Indicators - All Landa

| No. | Teem | Uni t | 150-51 | 55-56 | 150-51 155-56 160-61 161-62 | | 162-63 163-64 164-65 | 19-69, | | 165-65 |
|-----|--|-------------|--------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| - | National Income at 1950-51 | Rs. crores | 0386 | 11670 | 14140 14490 | | 14740 | 15460 | 16630 | 1593C |
| 8 | Per Capita Irone at 1900-51 Irices | Rs. | 275 | 299 | 326 | 526 | 525 | 20 | 348 | 325 |
| iń | Money July With the public (as on last friday) | Rs. crores | 2016 | 2217 | 2869 | 3046 | 3310 | 27.52 | 4080 | 4530 |
| 4. | Jeff of financing | | | 157 | 67- | 184 | 135 | 211 | 188 | 385 |
| 5 | Cont of living Index | 1949=100 | 101 | 96 | 124 | .127 | 151 | 137 | 157 | 169 |
| 9 | irlex numbers of whole-sale prices (average of months) | 1952-55=100 | 118.8 | 80 | 124.9 | 1.25 | 127.9 | 155.5 | 152.7 | 165 |
| 7. | Index numbers of Industrial | 1956 = 100 | | 9.10 | 150.1 | 1 136.3 | 150.5 | 162.5 | 174.7 | 181. |
| œ | Index number of agricultural production - All crops | 1949-50=100 | 9.96 | 115.8 | 142.2 | 2 144.8 | 157.5 | 142.6 | 158.0 | 158. |
| | 1) Food Crops | 1949-50=100 | 90.5 | 115.3 | 1.757.1 | 1 140.3 | 130.4 | 135.9 | 1.06:1 | 151.6 |
| | 2) Non focd craps | 1949-50=100 | 105.9 | 119.9 | 152.6 | 5 153.9 | 151.8 | 156.2 | 174.1 | 1771. |
| 6 | Value of imports | Ms. crores | 059 | 774 | 1122 | 1092 | 1131 | 1290 | 1516 | 1350 |
| 10. | walue of experts | F | 601 | 609 | 642 | 661 | 685 | 7637 | 816 | 805 |
| | | | | 1111111 | | | | 1 | | |

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Provisional Based on 1965-'66 base level (petential)

TABLE - TIL.

All India indux aumbors of Wholesale erices - by sroups

| 100) | ų. | bedaini stenborg | + | 149.3 | 150.1 | 152.0 | 1.53.7 | 153.4 | 155.2 | 156.0 | 154.8 | 153.7 | 155.5 | 156.5 | 157.7 |
|---------------|---------------|---|-----|---------|---------|---------|--------|-------|------------|-------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 11 | Manustacturer | -thomsetn1 -uborg ets ets | 10 | 180.9 | 180.3 | 183.9 | 186.0 | 193.4 | 198.3 | 198.3 | 202.2 | 200.6 | 203.1 | 205.5 | 210.7 |
| (Base 1952-55 | Mex | Lstor | ON. | 153.7 | 154.9 | 157.3 | 158.3 | 159.0 | 161.3 | 162.0 | 161.5 | 160.3 | 162.2 | 163,4 | 155.2 |
| | - 2 | Lefrézobní efrejer ver | 60 | 199.3 | 199.2 | 207.0 | 212.8 | 220.7 | 227.7 | 233.5 | 237.9 | 224.3 | 222.3 | 221.7 | 226.9 |
| | | The Power sing street for the street of the | | 156.8 | 157.3 | 156.3 | 157.6 | 158.7 | 158.9 | 159.7 | 460.6 | 160.1 | 161.1 | 161.7 | 162.9 |
| | | oposides | ٥ | 135.7 | 134.2 | 128.8 | 129.0 | 121.1 | 129.8 | 129.4 | 129.0 | 129.9 | 129.3 | 130.6 | 150.5 |
| | 50 | Istra boos | EV. | 172.3 | 171.0 | 172.9 | 178.5 | 185.6 | 191.5 | 196.5 | 139.3 | 195.9 | 199.4 | 202.8 | 205.1 |
| | | erutioirga esitionneo | 4 | 175.4 | 175.7 | 1777.7 | 181.7 | 186.6 | 191.8 | 197.2 | 1.061 | 193.7 | 195.5 | 139.8 | 202.9 |
| | 25 | orgeo IIA do it | 10 | 169.6 | 169.5 | 172.2 | 176.3 | 181.4 | 136.1 | 189.2 | 191,7 | 187.5 | 189.5 | 191.6 | 194.1 |
| | | ranch | 60 | January | Pobmary | Marroll | April | Vel | July Court | July | Anguet | September | Sectobor | November | December |
| | | TEOY | - | 1966 | | - | T. | | 100 | | | | b | | III |

1. A. S. L. L. L. Y.

All fulls index Manbers of wholesale prices - of groups

(Capacity-Sylvery

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|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|----|--|
| The second | | panguage 14m pang | 11 | 156.5 138.5 146.8 146.3 146.3 144.6 145.9 |
| 14-1- | Manufactures | -ibomioful -bborg ste eio | 10 | 156.8 156.8 156.8 157.3 160.4 154.6 169.1 177.0 177.0 177.0 |
| | Manuf | Later | 0 | 141.8 141.1 141.1 145.2 145.2 146.8 146.8 146.8 |
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| | | comes frail | b- | 148.1 148.2 146.4 146.4 146.7 140.5 150.6 150.6 |
| | | bile reupli consist | 9 | 158.8 158.6 158.6 158.7 158.7 156.5 156.5 |
| | 9 | elotics book | 5 | 160.5 160.5 156.4 156.3 158.7 168.9 174.5 170.2 170.2 175.2 |
| | | Intmiles fagy cetiformos | 9. | 159.2 159.2 154.0 155.6 156.2 176.3 169.3 169.3 175.7 |
| | | solvibemed) | 3 | 155.4 151.5 151.5 155.8 162.8 162.8 162.1 169.1 |
| | 3 | цапен | 8 | January January Sareh April 1 April 2 April 3 April 3 |
| | | TEOX | - | 1965 |

TASLE - IV.

Cost of Living Index numbers All India (Base 1949=100)

| Months | 1965 | 1966 |
|-----------|------|------|
| January | 165 | 173 |
| February | 162 | 174 |
| March | 150 | -74 |
| April | 160 | 175 |
| Мау | 161 | 181 |
| June | 163 | 185 |
| July | 168 | 189 |
| August | 170 | 190 |
| August | 170 | 190 |
| September | 172 | 191 |
| October | 172 | 192 |
| November | 173 | 194 |
| | | |
| December | 193 | 197 |

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|--|---------|----------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| News of Trop | 19:0-01 | 164-165 | 165-186 | % increased in 65-65 | 70 CHCTOSSE CH 69-66 |
| | 112.1 | 120.0 | 419.5 | 5.42 | -0.58 |
| 2 4 7 2 7 7 P | - 500 | 60. | 172.1 | 64.9- | -10.80 |
| | 420.2 | 125.3 | 112.4 | 64.9- | 5.7 |
| 10 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C | 5,56 | 0 | 90.5 | 19.6- | 7.00 |
| | 108.9 | 7.7 | 122.3 | 12.30 | \(\frac{1}{2}\) |
| | 102.9 | 104.1 | 105.5 | 3.13 | 0.75 |
| Socoulty Coop | 100. | 104.5 | 104.8 | 2.24 | 0.48 |
| The country of the co | 10.00 | 141. | 150.1 | 33.66 | 86.38 |
| | 1000 | 100 | 121.1 | 61.3 | ı |
| | 110.3 | 444 | 147.1 | 35.36 | 20.03 |
| D. S. | 106.4 | 1855. | 216.8 | 103.76 | 17.19 |
| Manual Lessons Crops | 9.4. | 4100.2 | 126.5 | 10.38 | 6.10 |
| Carries Again | | O. W. C. | 114.4 | 7.52 | 16.03 |
| Children Court | 600 | :0. | 2.62 | 27.67- | -2.45 |
| Committee and | 100° | 100.4 | 100.4 | 0.19 | |
| Total Carlo | K C * | 104.1 | 102.6 | - 0.68 | -1-12 |
| Transmissed to | 20.08 | 93.0 | 8.60 | 56.63 | 13.02 |
| / Acceptant | 115.0 | 135.0 | 146.1 | 5.4. C | 10.00 |
| a contract | 102.3 | 122.4 | C - 10 | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 1.5 |
| Cashevan | 3.44 | 4.40.4 | | 36.0 | 12.01 |
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| 1956-57-1009 | -5u; % | 88.438948 124858 82 82 |

Index numbers of wholesale prices of Agricultural op modifies - Kerala

Base 1952-53 ± 100 Group & sub groups 1961 1. Food grains (rice) 131 -128 - 124 2, Sugar (Molasses) 3. Condiments and spices 4. Fruits and Vogetable 5. Pood oreps 6. Oil seeds

E. Non-food crops 132 128 144 142 195 209 9. All Crops 126 130 127 142 163 174

7. Plantation crops

Marini - VI - 2

. Indox Multure of Wholesale prices of Agricultural

(3606 52-53=100)

| | Todmobed | 151 | 18/ | 12 | 176 | 157 | 250 | 122 | 16 | 176 |
|------|-----------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| - | Todmbvoh | 150 | 197 | 48 | 173 | 1,56 | 238 | 116 | 201 | 173 |
| | Toloboo | 152 | 193 | 140 | 179 | 156 | 226 | 12 | 19.5 | 140 |
| - | and modes | 151 | 166 | 166 | 186 | 160 | 250 | 126 | 199 | 174 |
| - | i jenSny | E | 173 | 163 | 134 | 129 | 252 | 135 | 203 | 175 |
| 986 | Aine | 12 | 156 | 154 | 60 | 154 | 210 | 132 | 136 | 168 |
| 10 | oung | 2 | 100 | 151 | 172 | 155 | 250 | 131 | 201 | 172 |
| | May | 亞 | 141 | 183 | 163 | 158 | 252 | 135 | 217 | 180 |
| | Trady | 1.52 | 129 | 184 | 157 | 157 | 256 | 141 | 221 | 181 |
| | प्रकारकार | 144 | 119 | 158 | 145 | 145 | 251 | 126 | 213 | 170 |
| - | Lepureur | 142 | 118 | 155 | 138 | 142 | 270 | 137 | 230 | 174 |
| | Lammer | 140 | 120 | 4 | 147 | 17 | 277 | 136 | 234 | 7. |
| | рессырск. | 139 | 50 | 55 | 1 | 140 | 287 | 121 | 237 | 175 |
| | redmoved | 136 | 118 | 143 | 144 | 138 | 283 | 117 | 233 | 473 |
| | xegon•0 | 133 | £. | 148 | 147 | 157 | 245 | 19 | 903 | 162 |
| 1 | aequeçães | 132 | 122 | 183 | 153 | 144 | 237 | 1:1 | 201 | , 5, |
| | \$m9ny | 133 | 121 | 252 | 152 | 195 | 240 | 11.6 | 203 | 173 173 |
| 1 5 | Atne | 138 | 111 | 282 | 150 155 | 159 | 233 | 112 | 136 | |
| 1965 | oung | 132 | 112 | 210 | | 147 | 224 | 109 | 183 | 162 |
| | Ash . | 132 | 114 | 137 | 161 166 163 155 | 144 | 227 | *** | 132 | 162 |
| | April | 133 | 113 | E | 163 | 475 | 220 | 10 | 00 | 160 |
| | doxsk | 159 | 115 112 | 138 14E | 166 | 143 144 | 185 195 | 112 | 163 17C | 150 153 |
| 1 | Lanuages | 145 147 159 | 47 | 338 | | 143 | 185 | 111 | | |
| - | \ \Tennel | 145 | 120 | 138 | 157 | 194 | 170 | 3110 | 150 | 149 |
| | Commodity | Aco | 101,8886.3 | Condiments 2 | Truits & Vegetablos | Took crops | Ofl Souds | Plan bathon Croud 110 | lon-food crors | All Commedition |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

-43-TABLE - VII. 1

Working class consumer price Index Numbers in Kerala

| | | | | | French | | |
|-----|----------------|-------|------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|--------------|
| Sl. | Contre | 1961 | 1952 | .1963 | 1254 0 | 1965 | 19€ |
| 1. | Trivoudrum | 474 | 437 | 500 | 463 | 105 | 675 |
| 2. | Quilon | 493 | 507 | 509 | 567 | 637 | 685 |
| 5. | Punalur | 473 | 503 | 516 | 552 | 598 | 544 |
| 4. | Alleppuy | 461 | 45.6 | 432 | 549 | 598 | 503 |
| 5. | Changanacherry | 468 | 472 | 455 | 554 | 524 | 531 |
| 6. | Kotteyan | 470 | 485 | 495 | 557 | 625 | 689 |
| 7. | Alwaye | 479 | 488 | 1511 | 582 | 638 | 576 |
| 8, | Sreakulum | 493 | 489 | 517 | 777 | 638. | 698 |
| 3. | Trichur | 484 | 401 | 510 | 575 | £20 | 203 |
| 10. | Chalaloidy | 489 | 483 | 507 | 590 | (29 | €3€ |
| 11. | Munican | 47.7. | 463 | 472 | 510 | 5/2 | 6 0 % |
| 12. | Shoribalai | | 462 | 496 | 752 | 610 | 9 |
| 15. | Kozrikode | 501 | 512 | 529 | 608 | 656 | 730 |
| | | | | Company of the Company of the Company | the same of the same of the same of | | |

Base: Rezhikade 1936 = 100 pther centres 1939 = 100

TABLE - VII. 2

Cousimer price index nos. for selected centres in Kerala for the year 1966

| ! | <u> </u> |
|-------------------|---|
| 9961 anquopec | 7000 7000 7000 7000 7000 7000 7000 700 |
| Hovembor | 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 |
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| 9961 305000005 | 6992 6997 6997 6997 6997 6997 6997 6997 |
| 9961 ganSn | 690 7000 717 717 717 717 717 717 717 717 7 |
| 1966 1966 | 668 670 670 670 671 671 671 671 671 671 671 671 671 671 |
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| 1966 Openaty | 1 000000000000000000000000000000000000 |
| 9961 Azenue | \$\\ \text{7.00} \\ \text{7.00} \\ \text{9.00} \\ \t |
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Base for Kozhikode is the average prices for the year ended June 1956 = 100

Base for other centres - prices for August 1939 = 100

TABLE - VII. 3

Index numbers for selected contros in Kerala for the year 1965

| | | 1 | 1 1 | ; 1 1 1 |] | } | 1 | | | | i | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|---|
| onqueo | 1962 Asunst | S961 Lopanaqog | 4961 4038W | 1965 1961 | 1962 1981 | 9961 eung | 1985 1985 | itanguA 8361 | 1961 Reducempos | 2040500 3061 | 4961 450mpAcM | 1302 December |
| Trivandrum | වසිස | 585 | 582 | 595 | 601 | 209 | 606 | 909 | 602 | 601 | 533 | 649 |
| Quilon | 611 | 612 | 611 | 628 | 638 | 640 | 269 | 629 | 643 | 642 | 699 | 678 |
| Punelur | 588 | 583 | 580 | 009 | 607 | 598 | 591 | 597 | 59.1 | 591 | 616 | 630 |
| Alleppey | 574 | 572 | 572 | 586 | 583 | 533 | 009 | 209 | 603 | \$C9 | 629 | 643 |
| Changamearcriv | 597 | 601 | 607 | 613 | 621 | 624 | 625 | 623 | 628 | 630 | 649 | 683 |
| Kottayan | 009 | 595 | 600 | 615 | 624 | 628 | 623 | 632 | 635 | 632 | 653 | 567 |
| Alvaye | 609 | 604 | 605 | 618 | 631 | 633 | 626 | 625 | 632 | 534 | 554 | 655 |
| Ernakulom | 909 | 603 | 009 | 618 | 630 | 632 | 627 | 639 | 629 | 643 | 865 | 211 |
| Trichur | 594 | 565 | 009 | 618 | 629 | 929 | 625 | 626 | 635 | 623 | 562 | 674 |
| Chalakuly | 605 | 602 | 209 | 624 | 628 | 634 | 622 | 627 | 533 | 079 | 699 | 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0 |
| Munner | 629 | 540 | 537 | 542 | 550 | 552 | 550 | 549 | 552 | 557 | 574 | 573 |
| Sherthelai | 581 | 579 | 584 | 601 | 611 | 617 | 611 | 616 | 621 | 616 | 553 | 5.5 |
| Kozhikode | 644 | 645 | 640 | 655 | 663 | 652 | 653 | 699 | 670 | 676 | 703. | 714 |
| | | | | | , | | | | | 1 | 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 |

Iase for Kozhikode is the average prices for the year ended June 1935 = 100 and for other centres prices for August 1959 = 100

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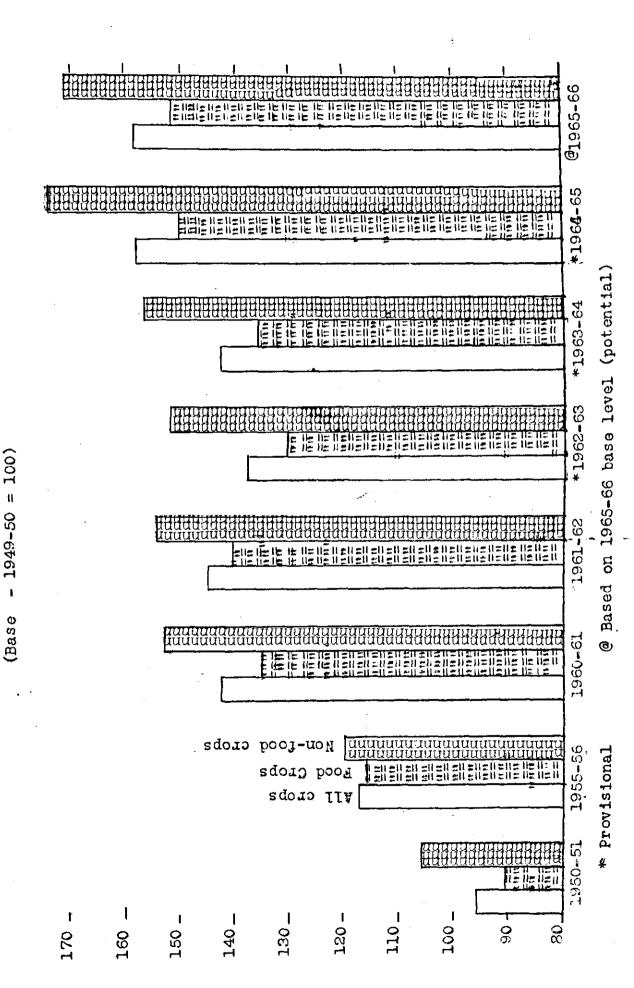
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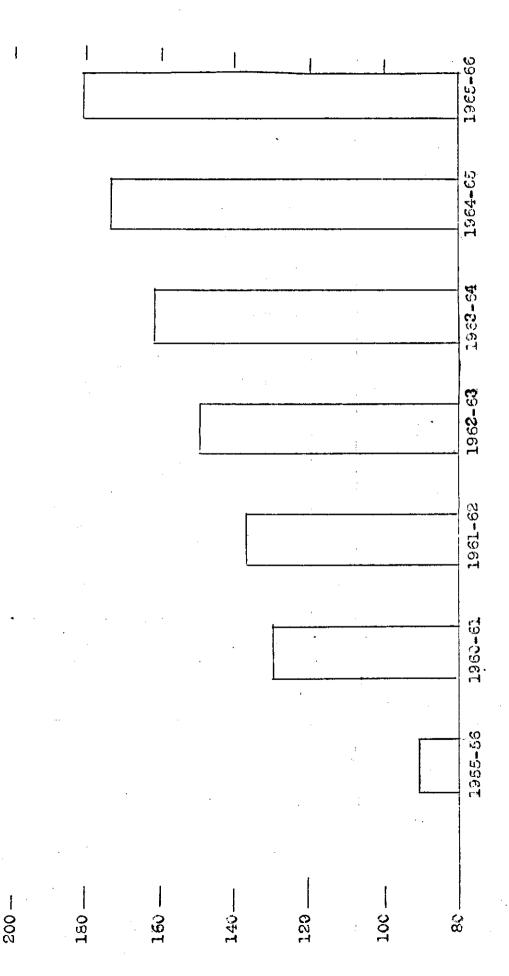
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INDEX NUMBER OF ACRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - ALL INDIA



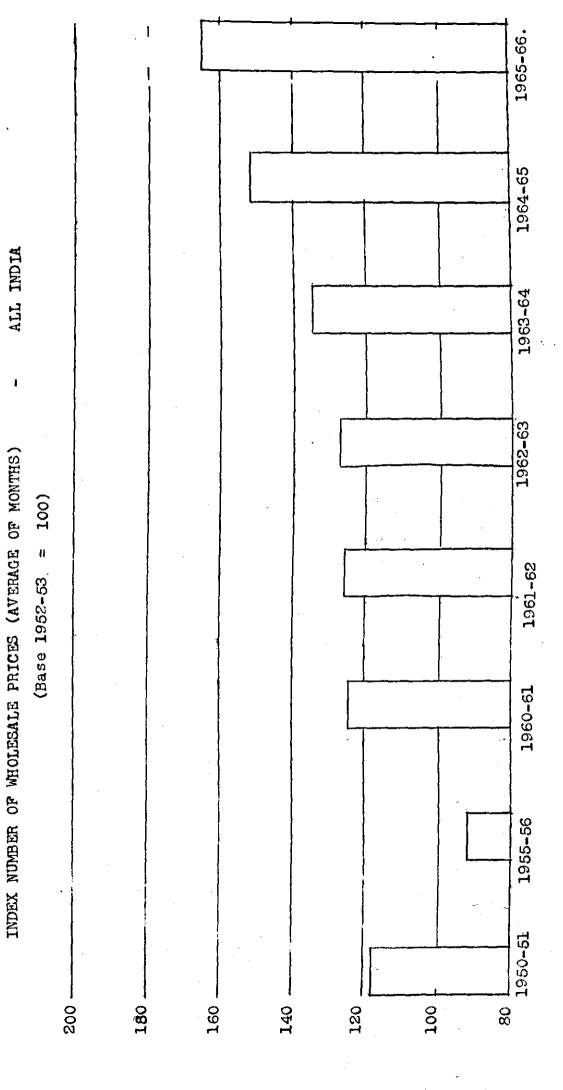
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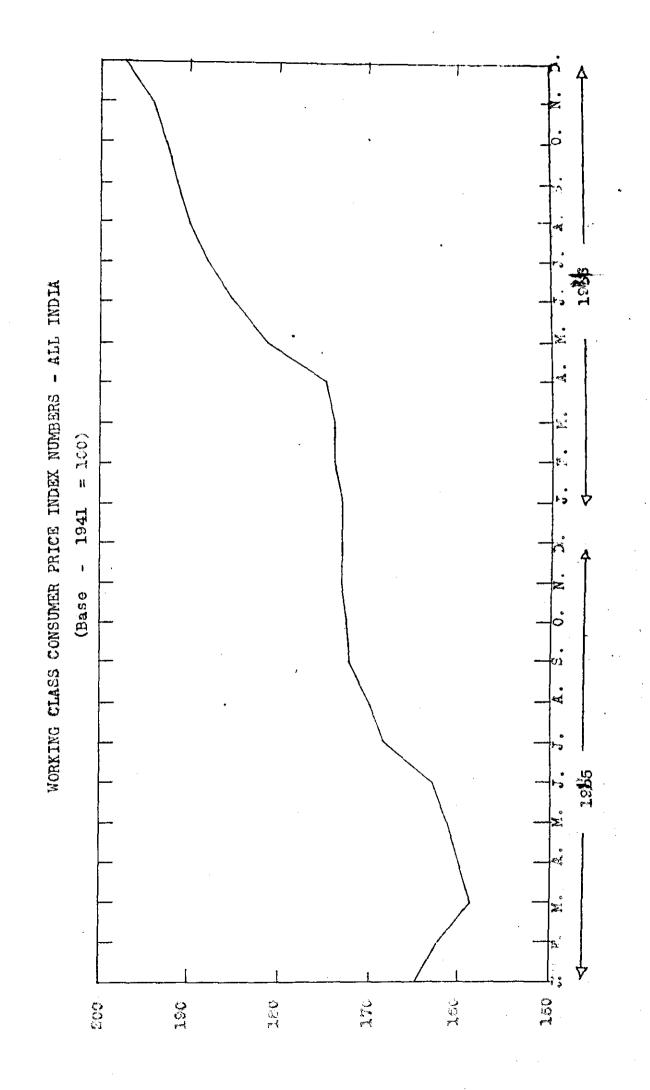
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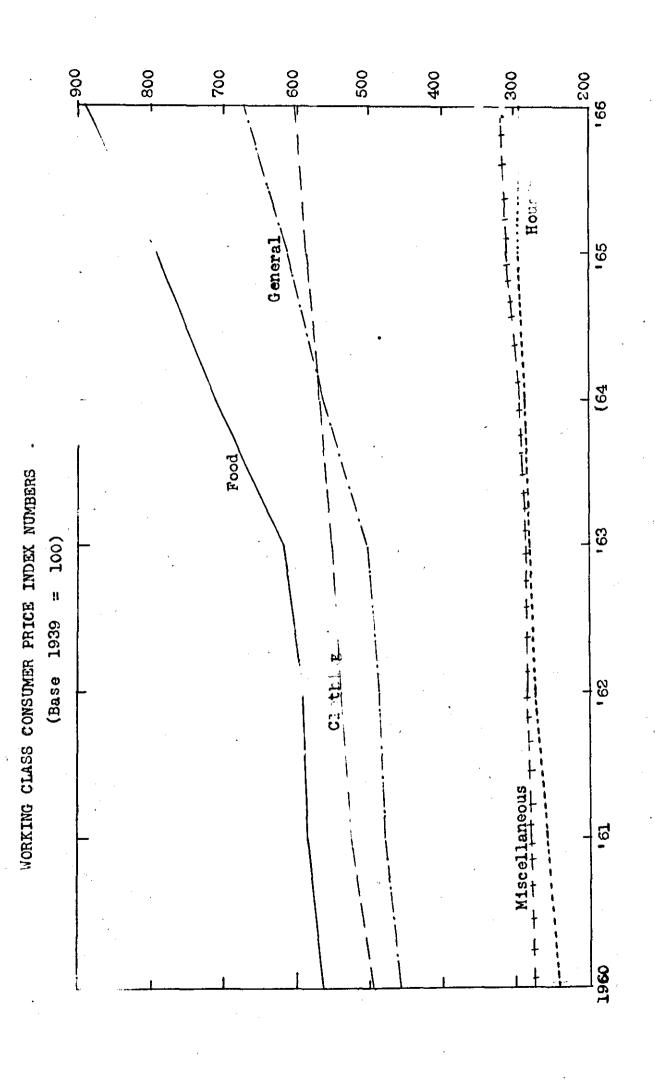
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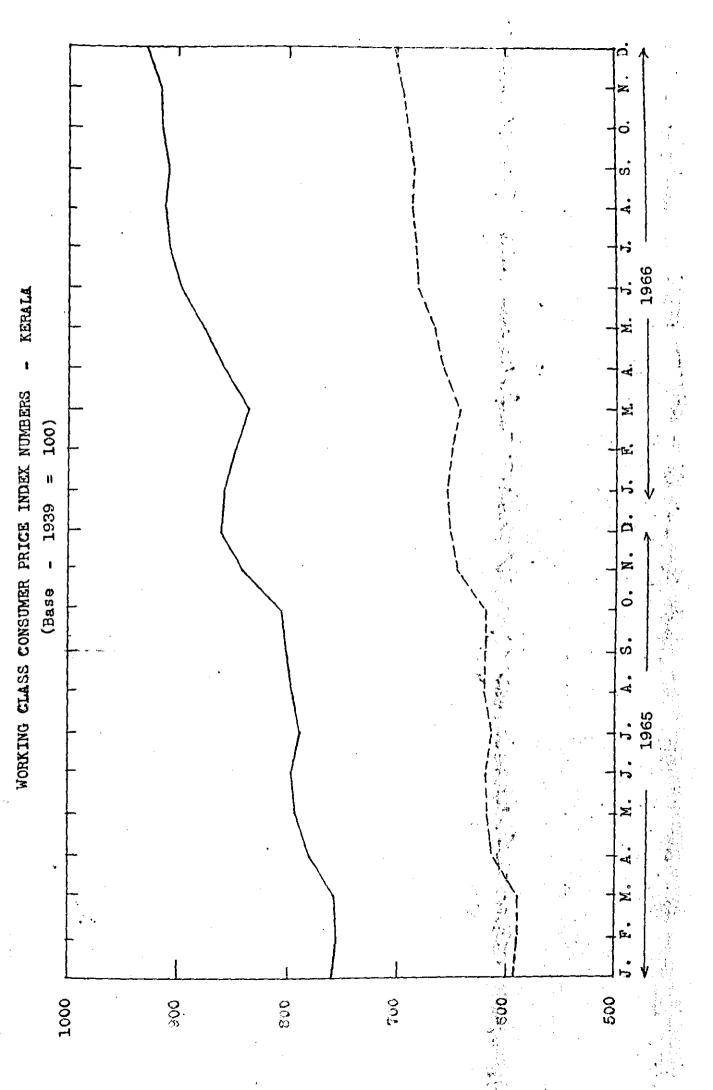
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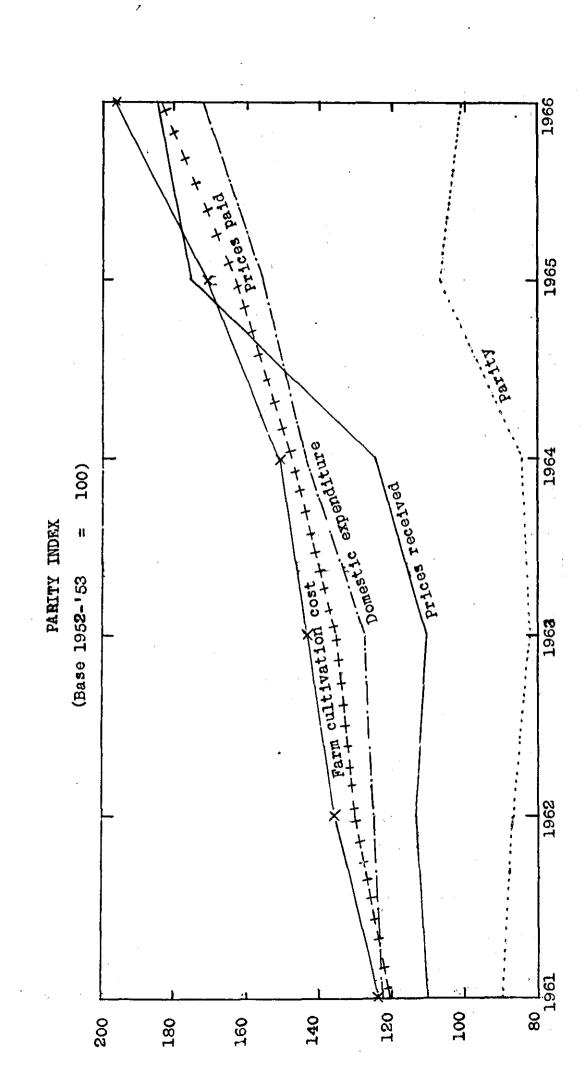


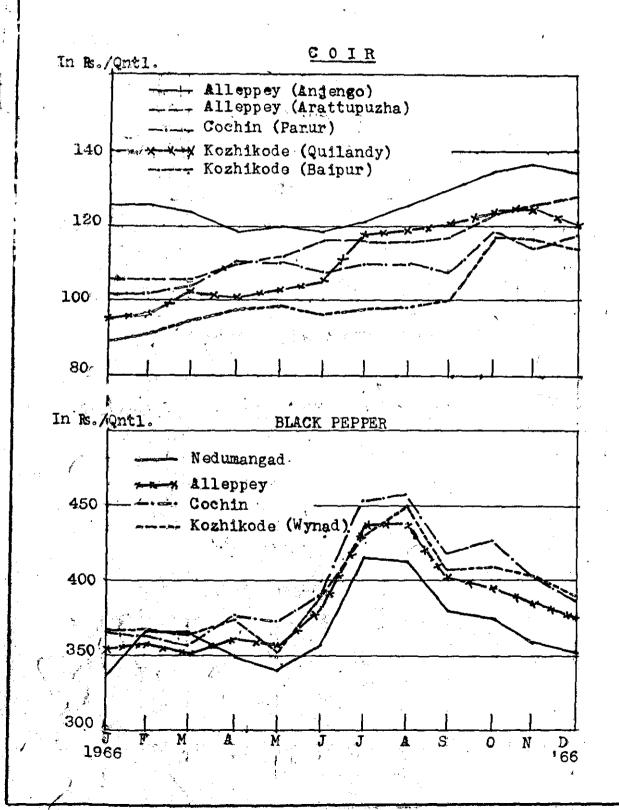
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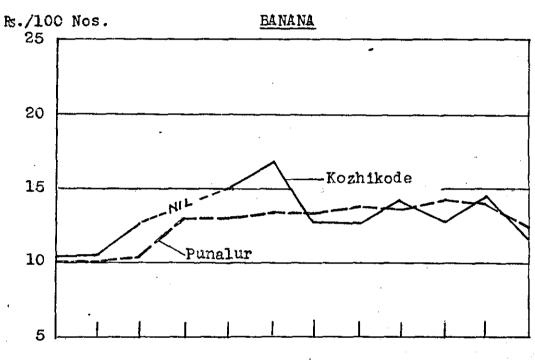


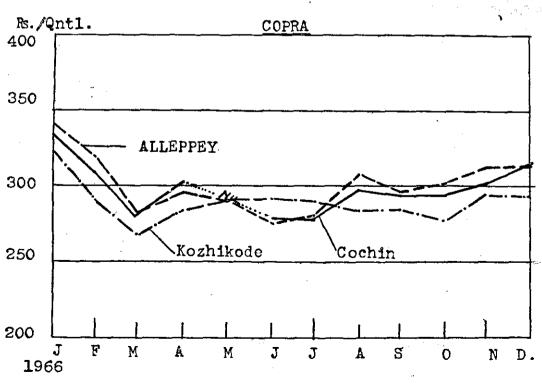




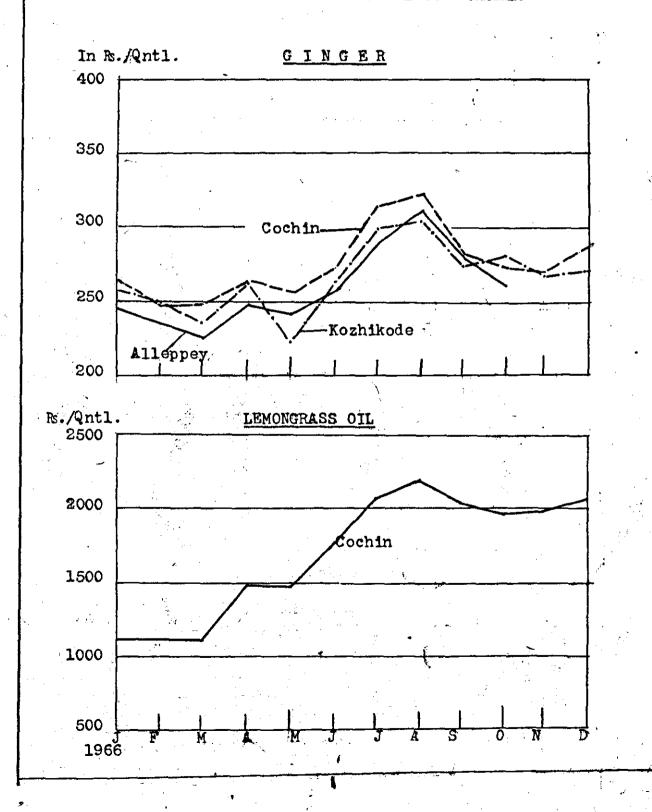


PRICES - JANUARY to DECEMBER 1966 - KERALA

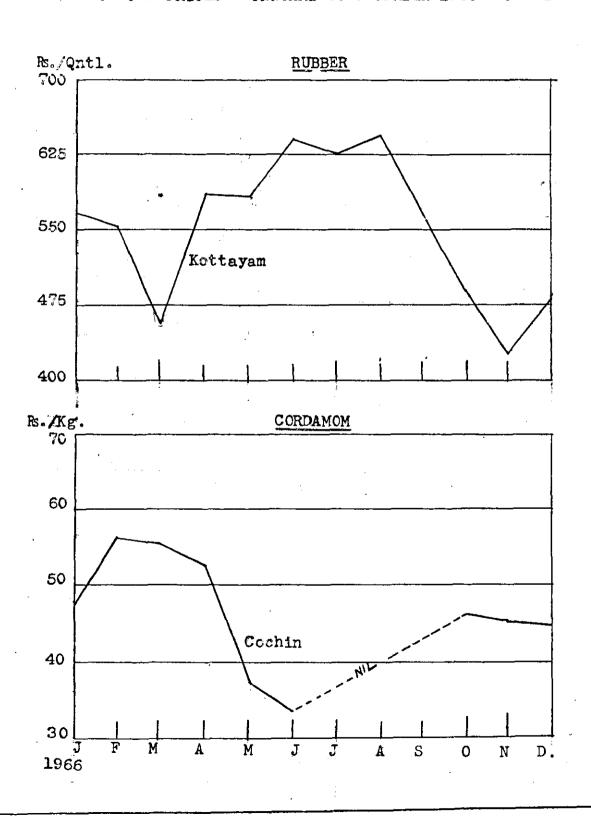


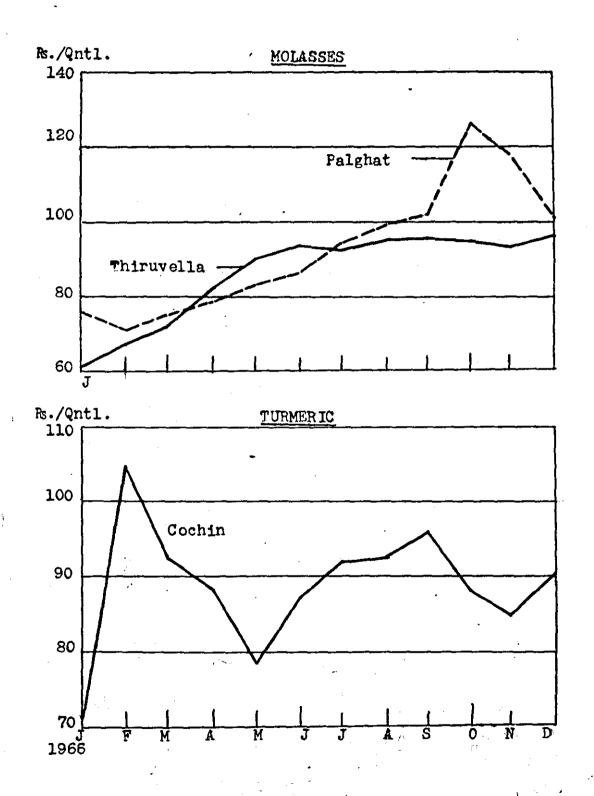


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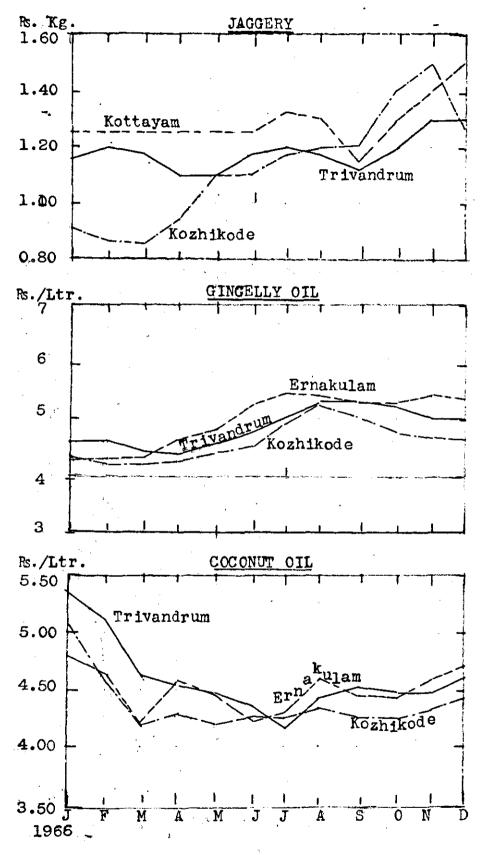


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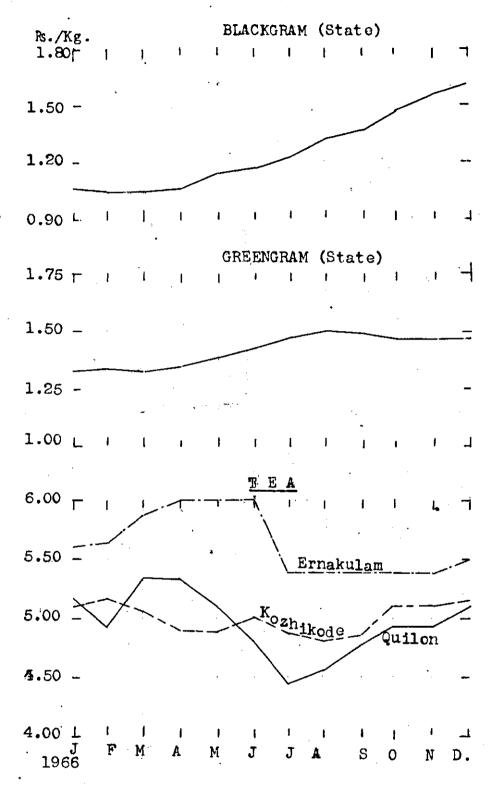








RETAIL PRICES January to December 1966



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RETAIL PRICES January to December 1966

