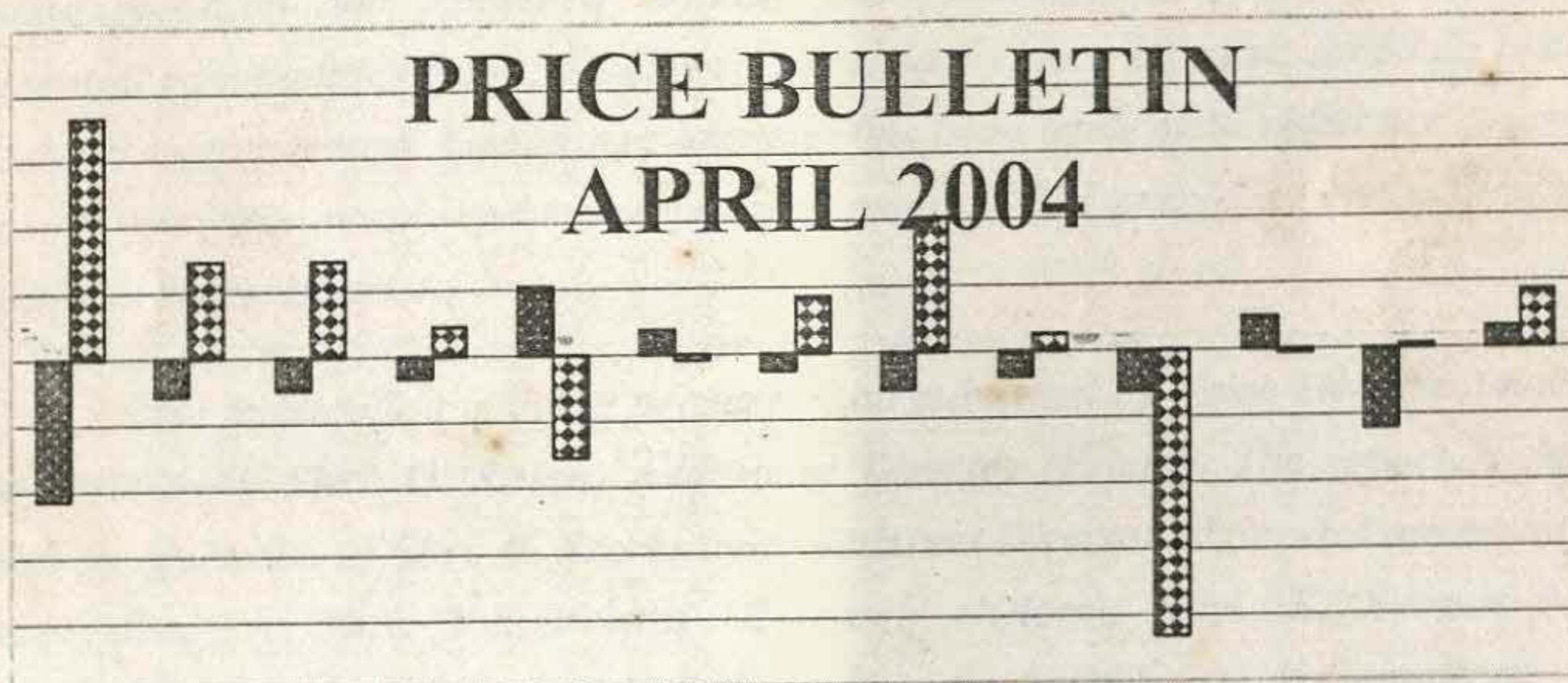


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Government of Kerala



Prepared by
Prices Division

Department of Economics & Statistics
Thiruvananthapuram
2004

PREFACE

The collection of prices is one of the major items of work undertaken by the Department of Economics and Statistics. The importance and usefulness of the information pertaining to the price movements has much significance in the context of a growing economy. This Department has been collecting different types of prices viz. Farm price, Market price, etc. (both Wholesale and Retail). These prices are being widely used for various purposes such as Preparation of Indices, to provide compensation of Farmer's and for tendering consumable articles for Govt. Firms. Among the Retail prices, the one which is being collected on daily basis from District Headquarters assumes significance, because the prices of 50 essential commodities are being forwarded to the Chief Minister's office and Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies daily. In addition to the daily prices, weekly prices of 20 items are also being collected on every Friday.

From January 2004 onwards a publication titled "PRICE BULLETIN" is being prepared and published monthly incorporating the Retail prices of main essential commodities from 50 items schedule (daily) and 20 items schedule (weekly) under 8 major groups. Groupwise analysis has been made with reference to current month, previous month and corresponding month of the previous year with suitable pictorial representation.

This publication is being prepared and published by Price Division under the supervision of Shri. D. Rajan, Additional Director (Prices). The report is drafted with the guidance of Shri. B. Sreekumar, Assistant Director (Prices). I appreciate the work done by Shri. V.K.Sreejan (Research Officer), Shri. K. Soman Nadar (Research Assistant), Smt. Usha Kumari Kecheriyil (L.D. Compiler) and Shri. S. Krishna Kumar (L.D. Compiler) for preparing such a worthy publication and Shri. S. Saseendran (U.D. Typist) for doing DTP works in connection with this publication.

Suggestions if any for improving this publication are most welcome.

Thiruvananthapuram

16/07/2004

M.R. BALAKRISHNAN
DIRECTOR

REVIEW ON RETAIL PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES APRIL-2004

During the month it is seen that the price variation is more on the upward direction when compared with the figures of previous month and that of the corresponding month in the previous year. Groupwise comparisons of commodities with suitable graphs are given below.

1. RICE

Table-1

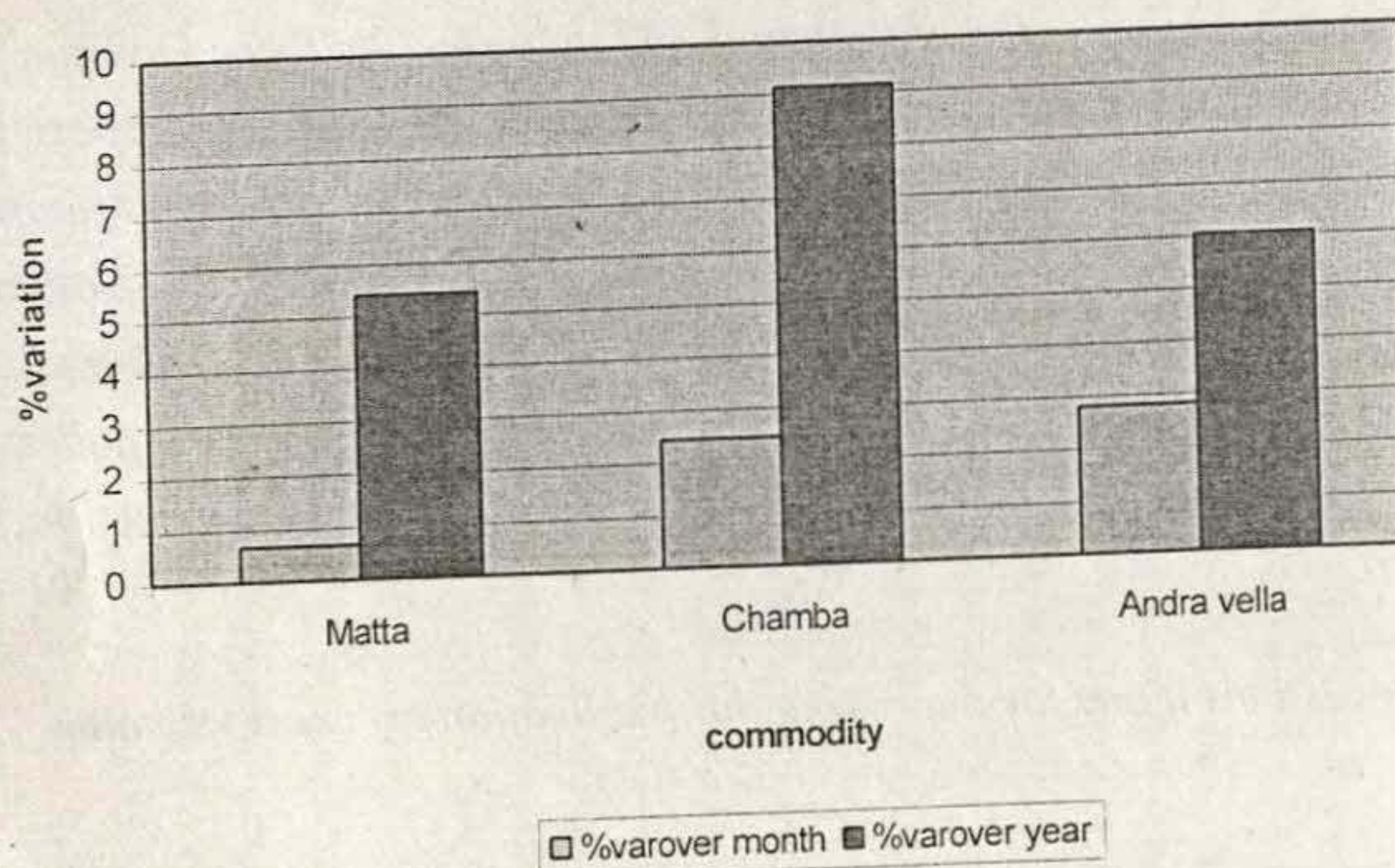
Comparison of state average retail prices of different varieties of Rice.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation Over month	Percentage of Variation Over year
			April 25 2003	Mar 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Red - Matta	Kg	13.09	13.71	13.80	0.66	5.42
2	Red - Chamba	Kg	13.45	14.33	14.68	2.44	9.14
3	White - Andra Vella	Kg	12.41	12.80	13.16	2.81	6.04

Compared to last month and last year the prices of all types of Rice moves upward and it fluctuates in between 0.66% to 9.14%. The graph below depicts this fluctuation.

Graph-1

%VARIATION OF RICE



2.PULSES

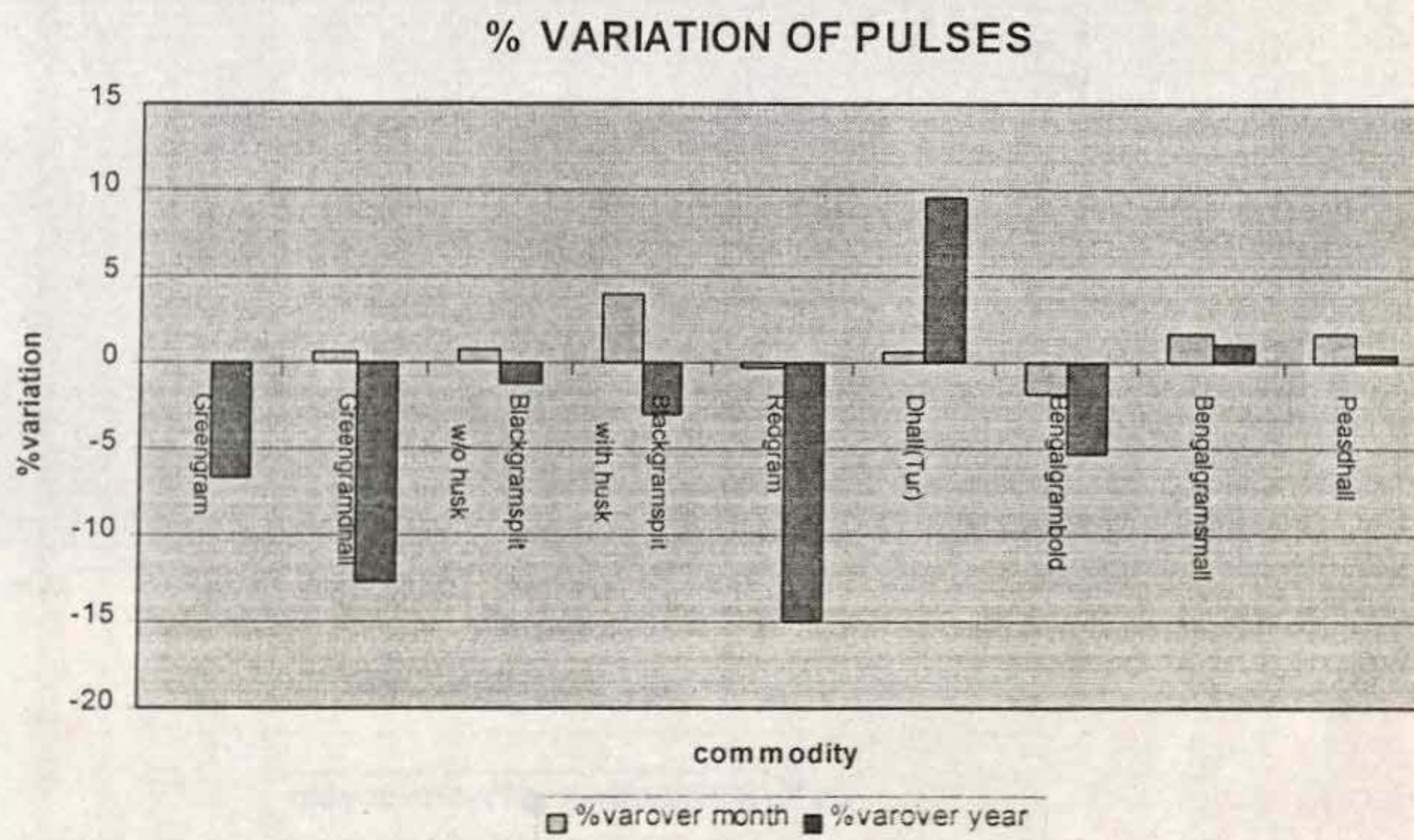
Table-2

Comparison of state average retail prices of Pulses.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation Over month	Percentage of Variation Over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Green gram	Kg	30.11	28.11	28.12	0.04	-6.61
2	Green gram dhall	Kg	35.43	30.75	30.92	0.55	-12.73
3	Black gram split w/o husk	Kg	26.96	26.43	26.65	0.83	-1.15
4	Black gram split with husk	Kg	25.94	24.21	25.17	3.97	-2.97
5	Redgram	Kg	25.64	21.89	21.81	-0.37	-14.94
6	Dhall(Tur)	Kg	31.12	33.88	34.08	0.59	9.51
7	Bengalgram Bold	Kg	26.85	25.88	25.42	-1.78	-5.33
8	Bengalgram Small	Kg	25.20	25.05	25.45	1.60	0.99
9	Peas Dhall	Kg	22.14	21.86	22.23	1.69	0.41

Compared to last month a positive trend is seen in the prices of Pulses for the month. Only two commodities moves downward direction, rest fluctuates between 0.04% to 3.97%. But compared to previous year a negative trend is seen. The prices of Redgram and Greengram dhall are down by more than 10%. Graph 2 represents the changes of prices in the Pulses group.

Graph-2



3. OTHER FOOD ITEMS

Table-3

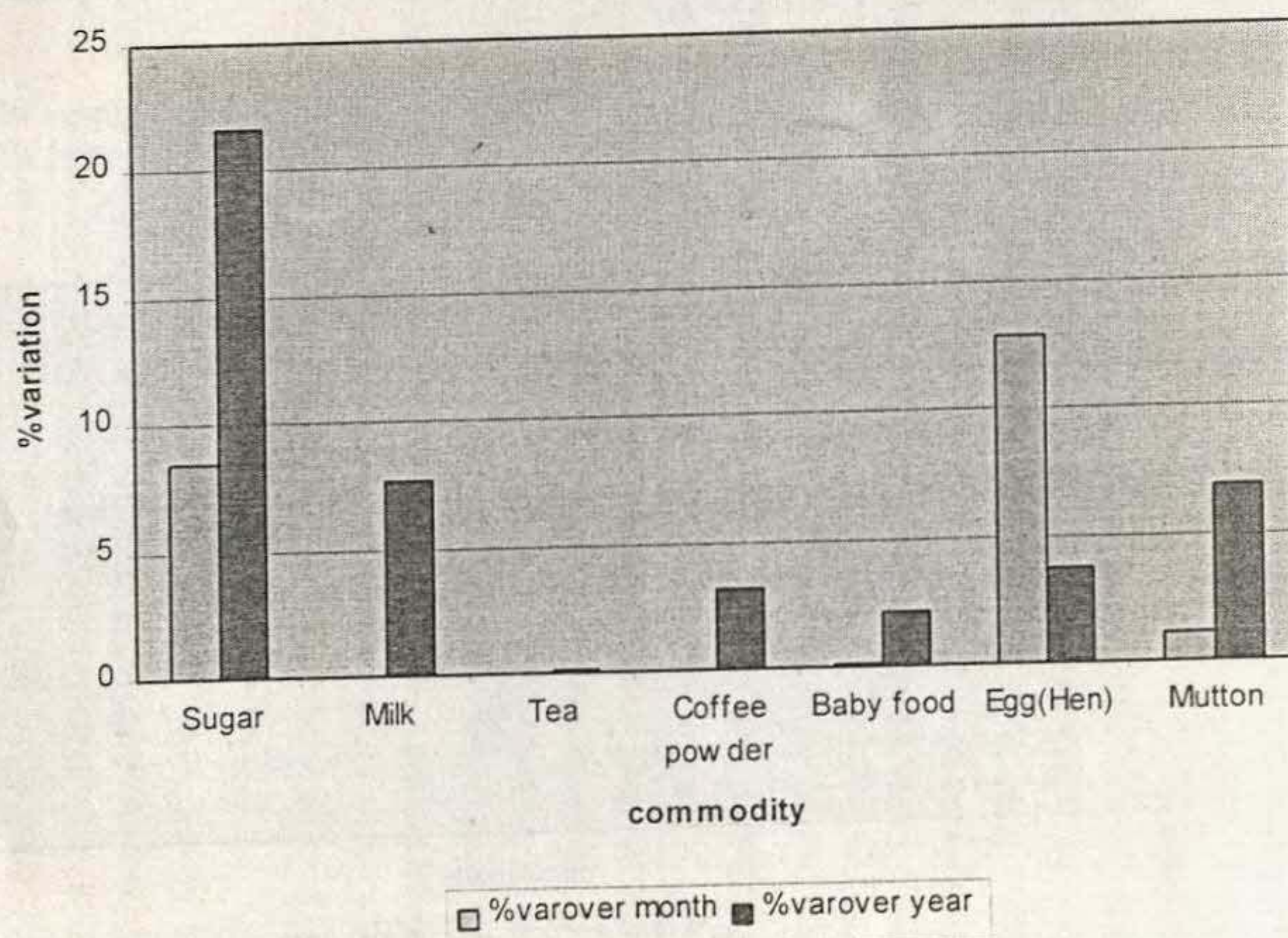
Comparison of state average retail prices of other food Items.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Sugar(O.M)	Kg.	13.77	15.43	16.74	8.49	21.57
2	Milk (Cow's)	Ltr.	13.04	14.04	14.04	0.00	7.67
3	Tea (Kannan Devan)	500gms	71.21	71.29	71.29	0.00	0.11
4	Coffee Powder (Brook Bond Green Label)	500gms	66.27	68.36	68.36	0.00	3.15
5	Baby Food (Amul)	Kg	138.90	141.60	141.80	0.14	2.09
6	Egg(Hens) White Lagoon	Dozen	15.73	14.45	16.31	12.87	3.69
7	Mutton with out bones	Kg	125.71	132.86	134.29	1.08	6.83

There is no change in the prices of Milk, Tea and Coffee powder when compared to last month, and prices of all other commodity moves upward. Also a positive trend is displayed in this group when compared with last year's prices. Price of Sugar is increased by 21.57%. Graphic representation of price change is shown below.

Graph-3

% VARIATION OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS



4.OIL AND OILSEEDS

Table-4

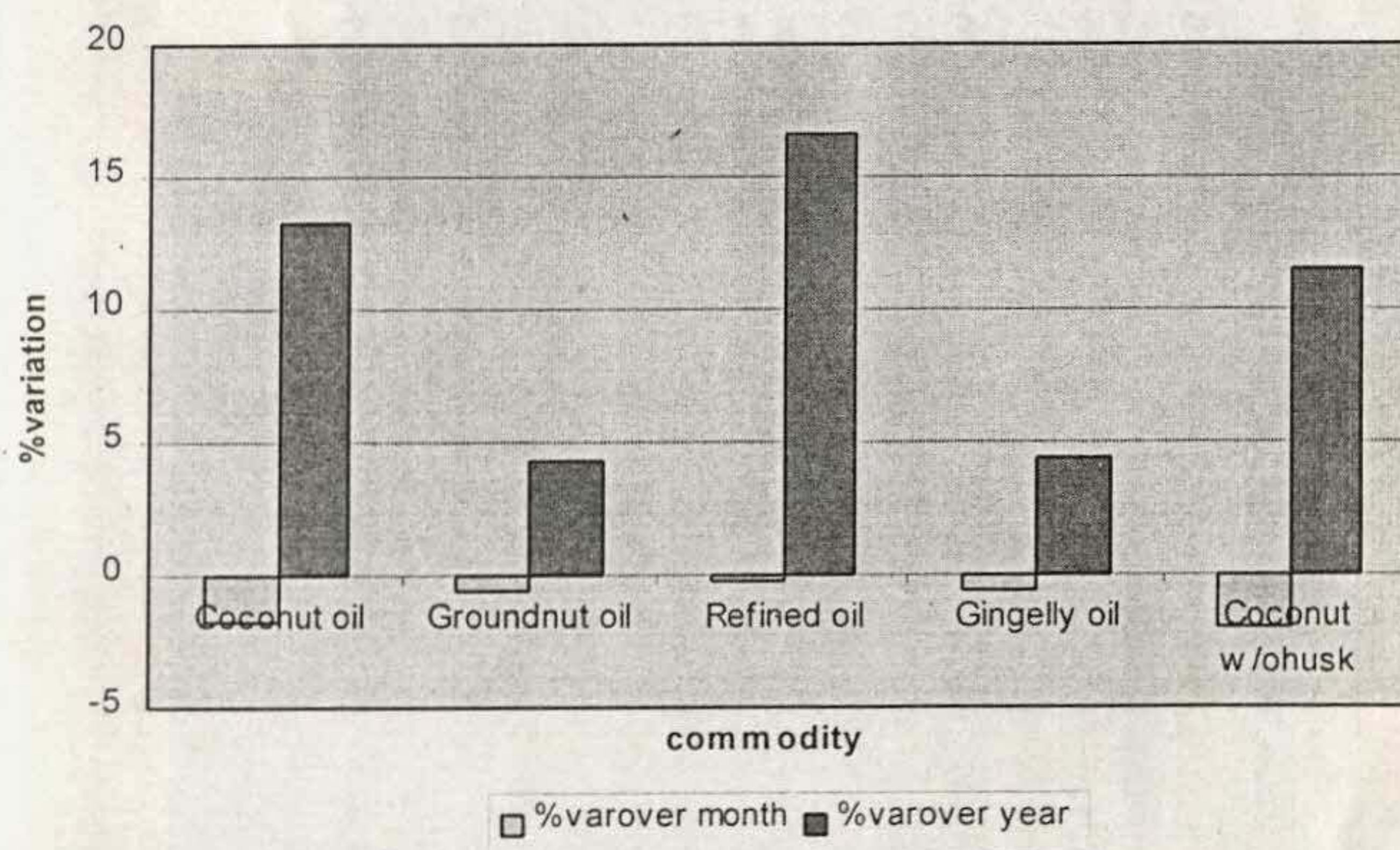
Comparison of state average retail prices of Oil and Oilseeds

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Coconut oil	Kg	58.73	67.71	66.54	-1.73	13.30
2	Groundnut oil	Kg	66.36	69.56	69.19	-0.53	4.26
3	Refined oil (Postman)	Kg.	77.21	90.28	90.06	-0.24	16.64
4	Gingelly oil	Kg.	69.88	73.42	72.97	-0.61	4.42
5	Coconut without husk	100 Nos	576.43	655.71	643.08	-1.93	11.56

Looking at the price variation over the last month it is seen that prices of all commodities move downwards where as a purely positive variation is seen for last year comparison. Change of price in Coconut has affected the price of Coconut oil also. Graph below shows the percentage change of oil and oilseeds.

Graph-4

% VARIATION OF OIL AND OILSEEDS



5. SPICES AND CONDIMENTS

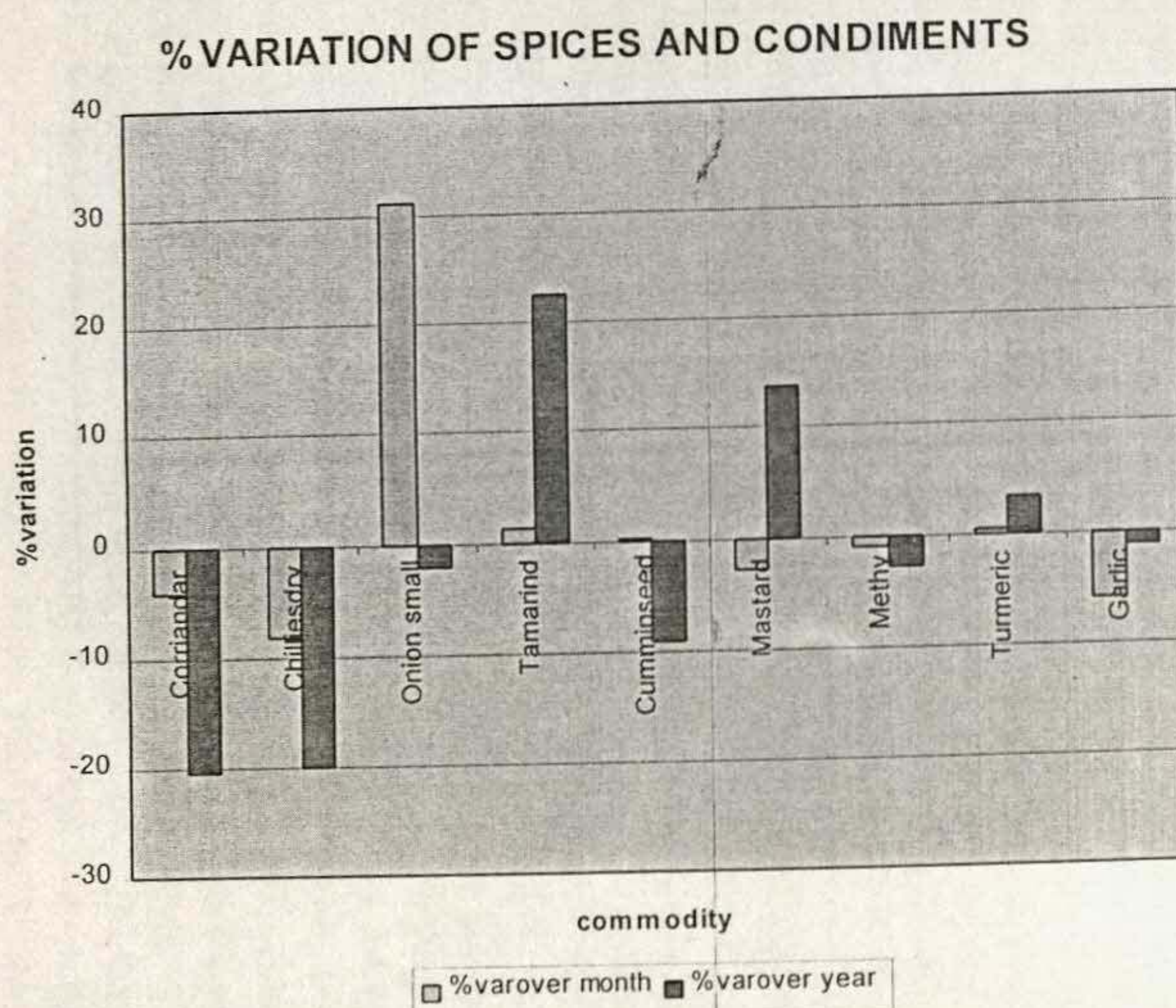
Table-5

Comparison of state average retail prices of Spices and Condiments.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Coriander	Kg.	41.86	34.75	33.31	-4.14	-20.43
2	Chillies dry	Kg.	51.79	45.07	41.38	-8.19	-20.10
3	Onion small	Kg.	15.04	11.23	14.73	31.17	-2.06
4	Tamarind without seeds loose	Kg.	22.64	27.43	27.77	1.24	22.66
5	Cuminseed	Kg.	121.79	110.71	110.77	0.05	-9.05
6	Mustard	Kg.	28.79	33.71	31.77	-2.79	13.82
7	Methy	Kg.	29.86	29.29	29.00	-0.99	-2.88
8	Turmeric	Kg.	48.14	49.50	49.69	0.38	3.22
9	Garlic	Kg.	33.29	34.93	32.85	-5.95	-1.32

A mixed trend is displayed in both form of comparison. For comparison with last month, price of Onion small is increased by more than 30% But compared to last year the prices of Corriandar and Chillies dry are down by 20.43% and 20.10% respectively and the price of Tamarind is up by 22.66%. Graph 5 represents the percentage change of Spices and Condiments.

Graph-5



6. TUBERS

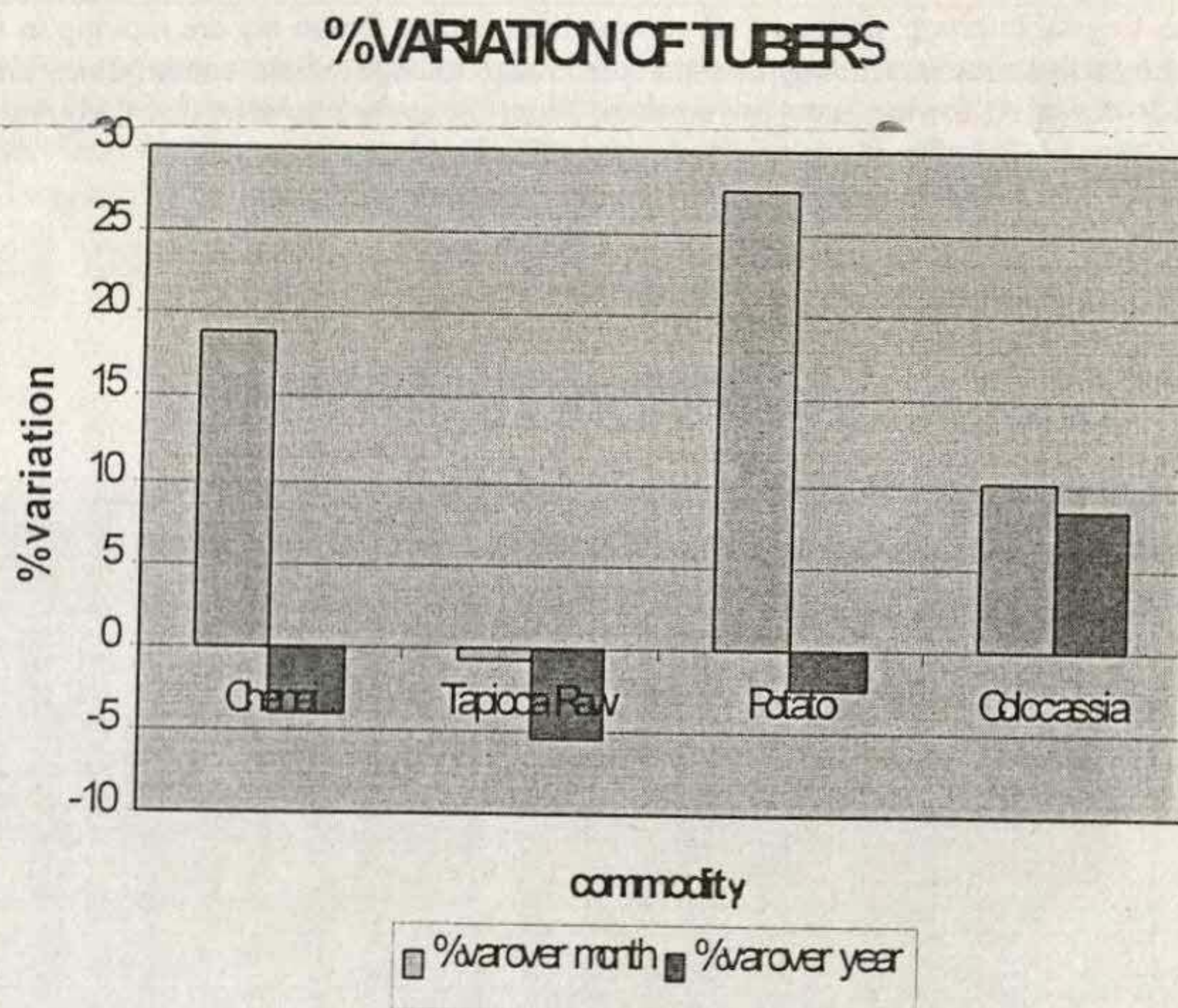
Table-6

Comparison of state average retail prices of Tubers.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Chennai	Kg.	16.93	13.64	16.23	18.99	-4.13
2	Tapioca Raw	Kg.	6.08	5.79	5.75	-0.69	-5.43
3	Potato	Kg.	11.20	8.56	10.92	27.57	-2.50
4	Colocassia	Kg.	14.58	14.38	15.83	10.08	8.57

Compared to last month price of Tapioca raw slightly moves in the negative side, while all other commodities have high fluctuation in the positive direction. Prices of potato, Chennai, and Colocassia are increased by 27.57%, 18.99% and 10.08% respectively. But compared to last year a negative trend is seen except for Colocassia. The data given in the table is illustrated in the following graph.

Graph-6



7.VEGETABLES

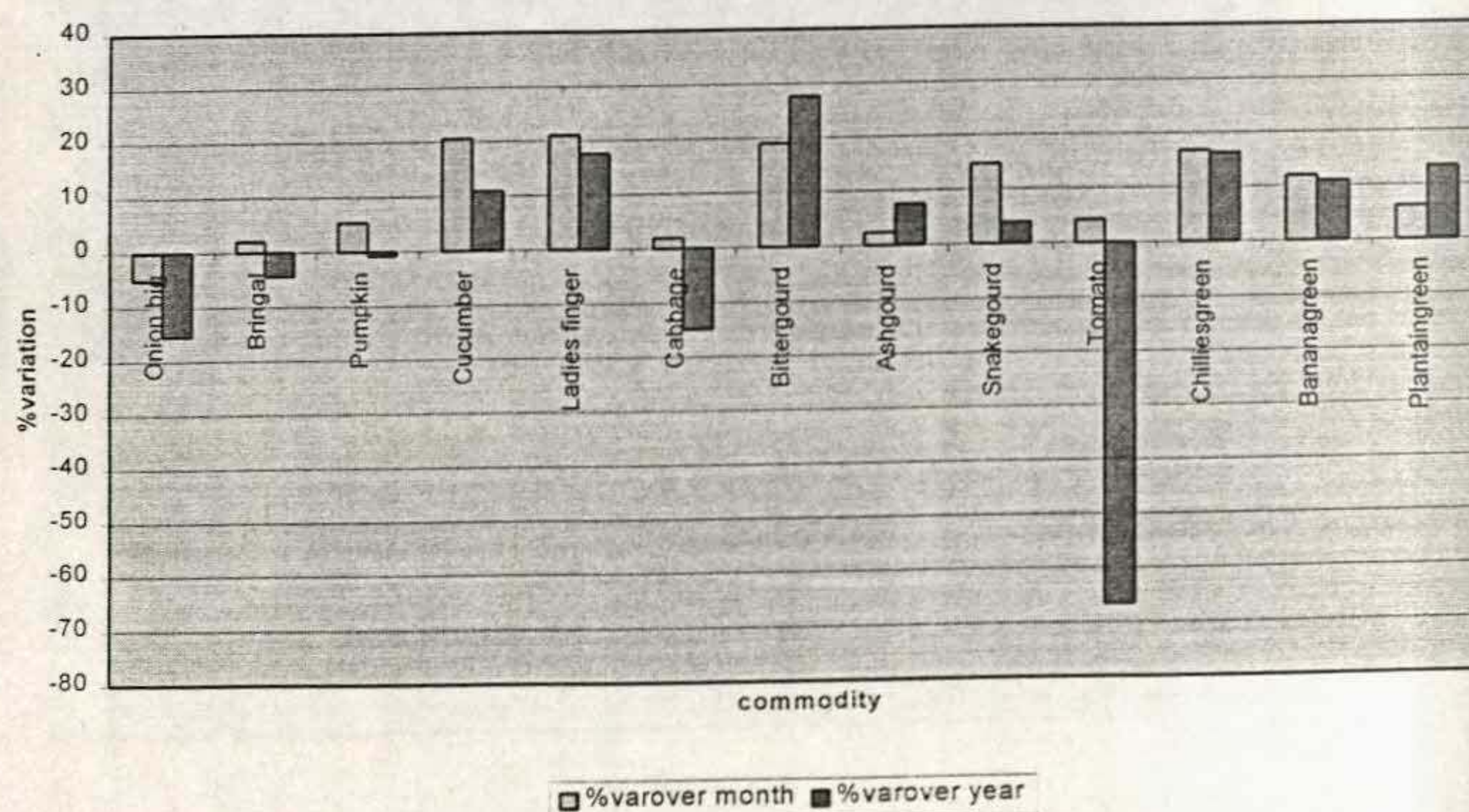
Table-7
Comparison of state average retail prices of Vegetables.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Onion big	Kg.	9.02	8.04	7.63	-5.10	-15.41
2	Brinjal	Kg.	10.14	9.50	9.69	2.00	-4.44
3	Pumpkin	Kg.	7.21	6.79	7.15	5.30	-0.83
4	Cucumber	Kg.	7.14	6.57	7.92	20.55	10.92
5	Ladies Finger	Kg.	12.50	12.14	14.69	21.00	17.52
6	Cabbage	Kg.	9.57	8	8.15	1.88	-14.84
7	Bitter gourd	Kg.	12.71	13.64	16.23	18.99	27.69
8	Ash guard	Kg.	6.86	7.21	7.38	2.36	7.58
9	Snake guard	Kg.	9.71	8.79	10.08	14.68	3.81
10	Tomatto	Kg.	20.29	6.50	6.77	4.15	-66.63
11	Chillies green	Kg.	13.64	13.57	15.85	16.80	16.20
12	Banana green	Kg.	12.93	12.82	14.35	11.93	10.98
13	Plantain green	Kg.	8.89	9.50	10.08	6.11	13.39

In the Vegetable group, prices of all commodities except Onion big are moving in the upward direction when compared to last month. Among this the percentage change of six commodities are over 10%. Also a positive trend is displayed for the last year's prices. From the table it is seen that the price of Tomato shows a decline of more than 66%. Following graph represents the above data.

Graph-7

%VARIATION OF VEGETABLES



8.MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

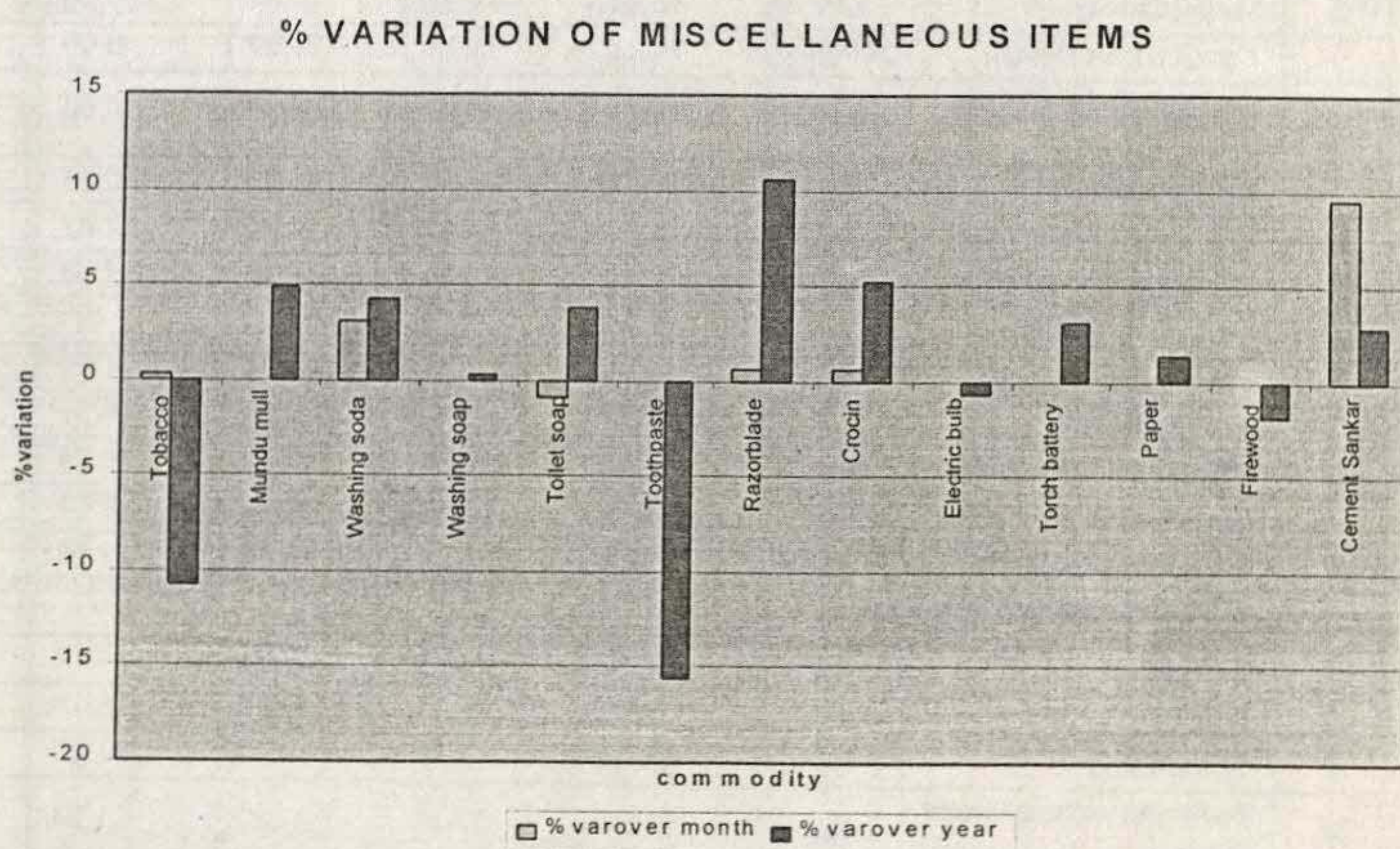
Table-8

Comparison of state average retail prices of Miscellaneous Items.

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Tobacco	Kg.	57.64	51.29	51.43	0.27	-10.77
2	Mundu Mull	Each	54.71	57.39	57.39	0.00	4.90
3	Washing Soda	Kg.	18.43	18.64	19.21	3.06	4.23
4	Washing Soap (501 Bar)	1/2 Bar	7.91	7.93	7.39	0.00	0.25
5	Toilet Soap - Lux	100 gm	12.21	12.79	12.68	-0.86	3.84
6	Toothpaste - Colgate	100 gm	29.64	25.00	25.00	0.00	-15.65
7	Razor Blade(Topaz)	5 nos	6.12	6.73	6.77	0.59	10.62
8	Crocin	2 tabs	1.54	1.61	1.62	0.62	5.19
9	Electric Bulb(Philips)	40W	10.75	10.68	10.68	0.00	-0.65
10	Torch Battery(Eveready)	Each	8.14	8.39	8.39	0.00	3.07
11	Paper	24 Sheets	10.64	10.79	10.79	0.00	1.41
12	Firewood(Local Split)	Quintal	158.00	155.00	155.00	0.00	-1.90
13	Cement - Sankar (Ord.Paper Bag)	Packet	176.50	165.83	181.64	9.53	2.91

Compared to last month price of most of the commodity remains unchanged, only slight positive variation is seen for the remaining commodities. But comparing last year a slight mixed fluctuation is seen. The price of Tobacco and Colgate are down by 10.77% and 15.65% respectively while the price of Razor blade is up by 10.62%. The graph below depicts the percentage change of miscellaneous items.

Graph-8



The average retail prices of essential commodities as on the last Friday of April 2004, March 2004 and April 2003 are attached and also the percentage of variation over the previous month and corresponding month of previous year are attached in the following annexure.

Annexure
Statement showing the State Average Retail Prices Of Essential Commodities for the month of April-2004

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Unit	Prices (in Rs.) on			Percentage of Variation over month	Percentage of Variation over year
			April 25 2003	March 26 2004	April 30 2004		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
A. RICE - Open Market							
1	Red - Matta	Kg	13.09	13.71	13.80	0.66	5.42
2	Red - Chamba	Kg	13.45	14.33	14.68	2.44	9.14
3	White - Andra Vella	Kg	12.41	12.80	13.16	2.81	6.04
B. PULSES							
1	Green gram	Kg	30.11	28.11	28.12	0.04	-6.61
2	Green gram dhal	Kg	35.43	30.75	30.92	0.55	-12.73
3	Black gram split w/o husk	Kg	26.96	26.43	26.65	0.83	-1.15
4	Black gram split with husk	Kg	25.94	24.21	25.17	3.97	-2.97
5	Redgram	Kg	25.64	21.89	21.81	-0.37	-14.94
6	Dhall (Tur)	Kg	31.12	33.88	34.08	0.59	9.51
7	Bengalgram Bold	Kg	26.85	25.88	25.42	-1.78	-5.33
8	Bengalgram Small	Kg	25.20	25.05	25.45	1.60	0.99
9	Peas Dhall	Kg	22.14	21.86	22.23	1.69	0.41
C. OTHER FOOD ITEMS							
1	Sugar(O.M)	Kg.	13.77	15.43	16.74	8.49	21.57
2	Milk (Cow's)	Ltr.	13.04	14.04	14.04	0.00	7.67
3	Tea (Kannan Devan)	500gms	71.21	71.29	71.29	0.00	0.11
4	Coffee Powder (Brook Bond Gr.Label)	500gms	66.27	68.36	68.36	0.00	3.15
5	Baby Food(amul)	Kg	138.90	141.60	141.80	0.14	2.09
6	Egg(Hens) White Lagon	Dozen	15.73	14.45	16.31	12.87	3.69
7	Mutton with out bones	Kg	125.71	132.86	134.29	1.08	6.83
D. OIL AND OIL SEEDS							
1	Coconut oil	Kg	58.73	67.71	66.54	-1.73	13.30
2	Groundnut oil	Kg	66.36	69.56	69.19	-0.53	4.26
3	Refined oil (Postman)	Kg.	77.21	90.28	90.06	-0.24	16.64
4	Gingelly oil	Kg.	69.88	73.42	72.97	-0.61	4.42
5	Coconut without husk	100 nos	576.43	655.71	643.08	-1.93	11.56
E. SPICES AND CONDIMENTS							
1	Corriandar	Kg.	41.86	34.75	33.31	-4.14	-20.43
2	Chillies dry	Kg.	51.79	45.07	41.38	-8.19	-20.10
3	Onion small	Kg.	15.04	11.23	14.73	31.17	-2.06
4	Tamarind without seeds loose	Kg.	22.64	27.43	27.77	1.24	22.66

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
5	Cuminseed	Kg.	121.79	110.71	110.77	0.05	-9.05
6	Mustard	Kg.	28.79	33.71	31.77	-2.79	13.82
7	Methy	Kg.	29.86	29.29	29.00	-0.99	-2.88
8	Turmeric	Kg.	48.14	49.50	49.69	0.38	3.22
9	Garlic	Kg.	33.29	34.93	32.85	-5.95	-1.32
F. TUBERS							
1	Chennai	Kg.	16.93	13.64	16.23	18.99	-4.13
2	Tapioca Raw	Kg.	6.08	5.79	5.75	-0.69	-5.43
3	Potato	Kg.	11.20	8.56	10.92	27.57	-2.50
4	Colocassia	Kg.	14.58	14.38	15.83	10.08	8.57
G. VEGETABLES							
1	Onion big	Kg.	9.02	8.04	7.63	-5.10	-15.41
2	Brinjal	Kg.	10.14	9.50	9.69	2.00	-4.44
3	Pumpkin	Kg.	7.21	6.79	7.15	5.30	-0.83
4	Cucumber	Kg.	7.14	6.57	7.92	20.55	10.92
5	Ladies Finger	Kg.	12.50	12.14	14.69	21.00	17.52
6	Cabbage	Kg.	9.57	8	8.15	1.88	-14.84
7	Bittergourd	Kg.	12.71	13.64	16.23	18.99	27.69
8	Ashguard	Kg.	6.86	7.21	7.38	2.36	7.58
9	Snakeguard	Kg.	9.71	8.79	10.08	14.68	3.81
10	Tomatto	Kg.	20.29	6.50	6.77	4.15	-66.63
11	Chillies green	Kg.	13.64	13.57	15.85	16.80	16.20
12	Banana green	Kg.	12.93	12.82	14.35	11.93	10.98
13	Plantain green	Kg.	8.89	9.50	10.08	6.11	13.39
H. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS							
1	Tobacco	Kg.	57.64	51.29	51.43	0.27	-10.77
2	Mundu Mull	Each	54.71	57.39	57.39	0.00	4.90
3	Washing Soda	Kg.	18.43	18.64	19.21	3.06	4.23
4	Washing Soap (501 Bar)	1/2 Bar	7.91	7.93	7.39	0.00	0.25
5	Toilet Soap - Lux	100 gm	12.21	12.79	12.68	-0.86	3.84
6	Toothpaste - Colgate	100 gm	29.64	25.00	25.00	0.00	-15.65
7	Razor Blade(Topaz)	5 nos	6.12	6.73	6.77	0.59	10.62
8	Crocin	2 tabs	1.54	1.61	1.62	0.62	5.19
9	Electric Bulb(Philips)	40W	10.75	10.68	10.68	0.00	-0.65
10	Torch Battery(Eveready)	Each	8.14	8.39	8.39	0.00	3.07
11	Paper	24 Sheets	10.64	10.79	10.79	0.00	1.41
12	Firewood(Local Split)	Quintal	158.00	155.00	155.00	0.00	-1.90
13	Cement - Sankar (Ord.Paper Bag)	Packet	176.50	165.83	181.64	9.53	2.91

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