

ITEM No.8108/53

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4 Aug
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BULGARIA

STANDARD OF LIVING (3200)
Prices (3204)

TRADE (3300)
Prices (3307)

Decree No.467 Of The Ministerial Council And Of The Central Committee
Of The Bulgarian Communist Party On The Reduction Of State Retail
Prices Of Goods For General Use.

SOURCE MUNICH : Radio SOFIA on 2 August 1953 at 05.00 hrs.

DATE OF OBSERVATION : 2 August 1953.

EVALUATION COMMENT : The first reduction of retail prices in Bulgaria was announced on 11 May 1952 by a Decree of the Council of Ministers and the Party Central Committee, dated 10 May 1952, dealing with the monetary reform and abolishing rationing in Bulgaria. However, this reduction did not affect the fixed prices of rationed products but the free market prices, and so this reduction in fact resulted in an increase of the prices of the most essential commodities by 50 to 200 percent (see Item Nos. 6313 and 8378/52.)

The second retail price reduction, or so to say the first reduction of the prices increased in May 1952 was announced on 31 August 1952 by a Decree of the Council of Ministers and the Party Central Committee.

The present price reduction is a propaganda means of the regime in order to do away with the enormous dissatisfaction of the Bulgarian population with the present misery, caused by the regime. The present standard of living in Bulgaria is the lowest in Europe and one of the lowest in the entire world. The reported reduction of State retail prices will not bring fundamental changes in this situation.

(Over)

SPECIAL ATTENTION : Mr. HENZE,
Mr. STOWE,
Mr. MICHIE.

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Radio SOFIA in its emission of 2 August 1953 at 05.00 hrs broadcast the following:

"The correct policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the People's Government has ensured an economical boom. The fulfillment of the Five-Year-Plan in its main parts within four years has considerably increased the output of goods for general use. The increase of labor profitableness and the decrease of production costs made it possible for the Ministerial Council and Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party to accomplish its main task - that of raising the material and cultural well-being of the working class, and to agree to a new reduction of the State retail prices for goods destined for general use. This reduction will be the third one, until now.

"This new price reduction is an evident proof of the constant care of the Party and the Government for the continuous rising of the material and cultural standard of the working class.

"This reduction of the State retail prices of goods for general use will represent some 900 million Leva a year savings to the population.

"The reduction of prices for foodstuffs and industrial products is an indirect increase of the wages of workers and employees as well as of the income of peasants.

"Taking into consideration that the new reduction of prices for goods for general use will serve to further develop the National Economy and increase the purchasing power of the working classes, thus ensuring them a higher standard of living, the Ministerial Council and Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party decrees:

(Over)

"Beginning 3 August 1953 the State retail prices for goods for general use will be reduced as follows:

Bread

Standard bread, by 17 per cent
Wheat bread, by 14 per cent
Bread mixed from wheat and rye flower, by 13 per cent
Rye bread, by 13,3 per cent
White bread "Dobrudzha" type, by 11 per cent
White bread "Starozagorski" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Bulgaria" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Slavianka" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Pitka" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Kievski" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Dimitrovgrad" type, by 13 per cent
White bread "Leningradski" type, by 13 per cent
Rolls "Russe" type, by 14 per cent
Rolls "Kyustendil" type, by 14 per cent
Yeastless bread made with butter, by 14 per cent
Standard flour, by 20 per cent
Wheat flour, by 15 per cent
80 per cent white flour, by 13 per cent
10 per cent white flour, by 12 per cent
Grits, by 12 per cent
Rye flour, by 20 per cent
Oatmeal, by 15 per cent
Oats, by 15 per cent
Wheat starch, by 14 per cent
Corn starch, by 14 per cent
Starch / puddings /, by 15 per cent .

Dough Products.

Macaroni and similar, by 20 per cent
Other dough products, by 20 per cent

Leguminous

Beans, lentils, peas, by 10 per cent

Fodder

Barley, oats and similar, by 15 per cent

(Over)

Bran, by 30 per cent

Vegetable Oils

Sunflower oil, by 10 per cent

Rape oil, by 11 per cent

Peanut oil, by 11 per cent

Almond oil, by 10 per cent

Nut oil, by 10 per cent

Sesame oil for salads, by 10 per cent

Animal Fats

Lard, by 10 per cent

Milk

Fresh sheep milk, by average 6 per cent

Fresh buffalo milk, by average 7 per cent

Fresh cow milk, by average 7 per cent

Fresh goat milk, by average 8 per cent

Yoghurt - from all kinds of milk - by average 6 per cent

Milk products

Sheep cheese, by 5 per cent

Cow cheese, by 4 per cent

Half-fat cheese, by 6 per cent

Cheese "Kashkaval" type, by 5 per cent

Butter - cow, buffalo and sheep- , by 5 per cent

Powdered milk, by 10 per cent

Various types of cheese, by 11 per cent

Cheeses, types "Republica" and "Chavdar", by 10 per cent

Cheese type "13", by 10 per cent

Roquefort, by 10 per cent

Cheese type "Pecorino Romano", by 10 per cent

Meat

Beef and buffalo meat, by 10 per cent

Veal , by 7 per cent

Sheep and goat meat, by 12per cent

Pork and lamb meat, by 10 per cent

Frozen meat, by 10 per cent

(Over)

Meat Products

Sausages, by 7 to 10 per cent
"Yambol" type sausage, by 8 per cent
Bacon, by 10 per cent
Sheep and goat "sazdarma", by 5 per cent,
"Pastarma", by 8 to 10 per cent
Nadenitsi, by 8 per cent
Cotlets by average 8 per cent
"Kremwurst" type sausage, by average 5 per cent
Black pudding, by 10 per cent
"Lubanka", by average 10 per cent
Leberkaese type sausage, by 5 per cent
Hunter's sausage, by 10 per cent
Liver sausage and Mortadella type sausage, by average 10 per cent
Meat in a jelly sauce, by average 10 per cent
Tongue with jelly, by 5 per cent
Sausages from bird derivatives, by average 10 per cent
Ham smoked, by 10 per cent
Ham cured, by 6 per cent
Pork ribs smoked, by 10 per cent
Ham, by 10 per cent
Ordinary ham, by 8 per cent

Poultry

Chickens, etc., by 10 per cent

Fish

Sea fish - fresh, salted, smoked, by average 10 per cent
Other fish - fresh, smoked, salted, by average 10 per cent

Caviare

All kinds of caviare, by 7 to 10 per cent

Fruit and Vegetables

Syrups, by 10 per cent
Compots, by 10 per cent
Preserved vegetables, by average 8 per cent
"Gyuvech" and "Paprikash", second quality, by average 8 %
Frozen vegetables, second quality, by average 8 per cent

(Over)

Frozen fruit, first quality, by average 8 per cent
Stocked fruit, by 20 per cent
Stocked grapes, by 20 per cent

Sugar and Sugar Products

Caramel candy , by average 16 per cent
"Lavka" type candy, by 13 per cent
"1st May" and "Valda" type candy, by 12 per cent
Fruit candies, by average 10 per cent
"Bananoes" type candy, by 4 per cent
Candy with alcoholic fillings, by average 8 per cent
"Lokum", by average 5 to 7 per cent
"Tahan halva", by 6 per cent
Sunflower "Tahan halva", by 7 per cent
Chocolate, by 7 per cent
Chocolate candy, by 8 per cent

Spices

Red pepper by 16 per cent
Black pepper, by 15 per cent
Cinnamon, by 10 per cent

Tropical Fruits

Olives, by 10 per cent
Lemons, by 15 per cent
Oranges, by 15 per cent
Coffee, by 20 percent

Alcoholic Beverages

Red wines, by average 20 per cent
White wines, by average 20 per cent
Rose, by average 20 per cent
Beer, by average 20 per cent
"Pelin", by average 20 per cent
Brandy, by 10 per cent
Vodka, by 20 per cent
Mastika ,by 20 per cent
Rum, by 20 per cent
Cognac, extra and ordinary, by 20 per cent
Liqueurs, by 20 per cent

(Over)

Textiles

Cotton clothes for dresses, by average 15 per cent
Cotton print, by 17 per cent
Ox-ford type cloth, by average 12 per cent
Pop-lin and similar, by average 10 per cent
Cotton cloth for underwear, by average 12 per cent
Cotton cloth with designs, by average 10 per cent
Cotton curtains, by 15 per cent average
Cotton table cloths and napkins, by 12 per cent average
Cotton blankets, by 10 per cent average
Cotton towels and handkerchiefs, by average 6 per cent
Wool cloth, combed, local produce from soft material, by average 5 per cent
Wool cloth combed, from local hard material, by average 10 per cent
Wool cloth combed, mixed, by average 10 per cent
Wool cloth combed from artificial material, by average 17 per cent
Wool cloth half-combed, by average 8 per cent
Wool cloth from soft local material, by average 5 to 10 per cent
Wool cloth from hard local material, by average 8 per cent
Wool cloth, ordinary by average 4 per cent
Silk cloth, from native silk, by average 5 per cent
Silk cloth from artificial silk, by average 5 per cent
Silk cloth mixed, by average 5 per cent
Silk cloth with cotton, by 8 per cent average
Silk cloth, "Shantung" type by average 10 per cent
Silk ribbons, by average 10 per cent
Fur derivatives, by average 5 per cent

Knitted Goods

Cotton knitted goods, by average 10 per cent
Cotton knitted goods / strick /, average 10 per cent
Cotton knitted goods / interlock /, by average 10 per cent

Woolen Knitted Goods

For men and women, by average 5 per cent
For children, by average 9 per cent

(Over)

Woolen knitted goods from mixed material for men and women, by average 8 per cent
Woolen knitted goods from mixed material for children, by 10 per cent average.

Silk Knitted Goods

Men's shirts, by 10 per cent average
Ladie's underwear, average 10 per cent

Hosiery

Ladies' native silk stockings, by 10 per cent
Ladies' artificial silk stockings, by 7 per cent
Ladies' cotton stockings, by 5per cent
Ladies' nylon stockings, by 5 per cent
Men's cotton stockings, by average 5 per cent
Children's cotton stockings, by average 5 per cent

Ready made Dresses

Woolen ready made clothing, by 5 per cent average
Children wool ready made clothing , by average 7 per cent
Ready made dresses from "cellulose" material, by average 11 to 18 per cent
Cotton clothing, by average 8 per cent
Children's cotton clothing, by average 8 per cent
Aprons, by 10 to 13 per cent
Morning dresses, by average 9 per cent
Silk clothing, by average 5 per cent
Children's silk clothing, by average 7 per cent

Shoes

Leather shoes, ready made, by 5 per cent
Ladies' shoes, by 10 per cent
Children's shoes , by average 10 per cent
Leather shoes, measure made, for children, by average 10 per cent
Shoes leather and rubber, factory made, all kinds, by 10 per cent average
Shoes, leather and rubber, handmade, all kinds , by average 5 per cent
Shoes, leather and rubber, special make, for all kinds, by 5 %

Construction Material

Boards, by average 7 per cent
Plywood, by average 8 per cent
Glass, by 20 per cent
Nails, by 5 per cent average
Copper "150" and "200", by 10 per cent
Cement "Montblanc," by 5 per cent
Concrete construction iron, by 4 per cent
Flat iron, by 6 per cent
Metal tubes or pipes, by 7 per cent
Glue, by 12 per cent
Cables, by 10 per cent

Cultural Equipment

Radio sets, by average 10 per cent
Radio tubes, by average 10 per cent
Watches, by average 20 per cent
Bicycles, by average 10 per cent
Motorcycles, from 125 cm³ to 150 cm³, by average 25 percent
Motorcycles over 150 cm³, by 30 per cent

Household Utilities

Sewing machines, by average 15 per cent
Electrical bulbs, by average 16 per cent
"Primuses", by 10 per cent
Meat grinding machines, by average 10 per cent
Thermos flasks, by 10 per cent
Payance, by average 10 per cent

Haberdashery

Neckties, by average 10 /er cent
Elastic belts, by average 10 per cent
Bags for schoolchildren, by average 10 per cent
Other bags, by average 10 per cent

Perfumery

Eau de Cologne, by average 10 per cent
Face powder, by average 8 per cent
Cream, by average , 10 per cent
Pomades, by average 4 per cent
Glycerin jellies, by average 5 per cent
Skin creamers, by average 8 per cent

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Vaseline, by average 5 per cent
Hair dressings, by average 8 per cent
Shampoos, by average 5 per cent
Perfumes, by average 6 per cent
Flower Essences, by average 5 per cent

Soap

Soap, laundry, by average 15 per cent
Soap, toilet, by average 15 per cent
Soap, shaving, by average 15 per cent
Soap, children's toilet, by average 15 per cent

Insecticides

"Dex", by 15 per cent
"Trud", by 9 per cent

Toys

Soft toys with textile dressing, by average 10 per cent
All other toys, by average 10, per cent

Sports Articles

Wooden sports articles, by average 15 per cent
Discs, javelins, rings, etc., by average 15 per cent
Spring boards, horses, etc., by average 15 per cent
Ping-pong tables, by average 15 per cent
Fishing tackles, by average 5 per cent
Leather sports articles, by average 10 per cent
Sports boots and half-boots, by 10 per cent
Balls, football, volley-balls, etc., by 10 per cent
Basketballs, by 5 per cent
Saddles and accessories, by 7 per cent
Metal sports articles, by average 10 per cent

Musical Instruments

Accordeons, by average 10 per cent
Other musical instruments, by 10 per cent

End.