

Press release

HAWKER PRICES REMAIN GENERALLY STABLE

Committee Against GST Profiteering (CAP) provides update on hawker prices and feedback received

1. The latest Department of Statistics (DOS) survey on hawker food prices from 21 Jul to 3 Aug showed a drop in the number of hawkers raising prices. Compared to the preceding two weeks (7 - 20 Jul) when 3.8% of hawkers increased prices, the latest survey showed 0.9% of hawkers raising prices. This continues the general downtrend observed in the past month. CAP is encouraged by the findings, and urges hawker stalls to continue to keep prices stable and not attempt to profiteer from the GST increase. DOS will continue to monitor hawker prices closely.

Results of DOS Survey on Hawker Food and Beverage Prices (21 July – 03 August 2007)

Zone	Number of stalls surveyed	Stalls with price increases	
		Number	%
Central	452	1	0.2
East	223	2	0.9
North	197	-	-
Northeast	183	8	4.4
West	216	1	0.5
Total	1,271	12	0.9

Results of DOS Survey on Hawker Food and Beverage Prices (09 June – 03 August 2007)

Period	09 Jun – 22 Jun	23 Jun – 06 Jul	07 Jul – 20 Jul	21 Jul – 03 Aug
Percentage increase	0.6	4.2	3.8	0.9

2. CAP continues to receive feedback on GST profiteering. CAP has received 104 cases of potential GST profiteering in July, and an additional 22 cases in August thus far. (See Annex for details.)

3. CAP remains vigilant against GST profiteering and will continue to investigate any complaints by members of the public about businesses that link price increases unfairly to GST adjustments. CAP will spare no effort to thoroughly investigate the complaints. Consumers who encounter GST profiteering should email CAP at feedback@cap.org.sg, or call CAP at 6884 4478 / 6884 4327.

Update of Feedback Received by CAP since 1 January 2007 (as of 8 August)

Number of cases	175
• Closed cases	73
• Cases under investigation	102

	Cases (Jan – Jun 07)	Cases (Jul 07)	Cases (Aug 07)	Total Cases
Relevant cases	49	104	22	175
(a) Food-related	32	60	12	104
• <i>Chain restaurants</i>	16	18	7	41
• <i>Localised stalls</i>	16	42	5	63
(b) Non-food-related	17	44	10	71
• <i>Chain marts</i>	3	5	2	10
• <i>Chain pharmacies</i>	4	3	2	9
• <i>Apparel</i>	1	4	0	5
• <i>Beauty/hair salons</i>	1	4	3	8
• <i>Carparks</i>	1	7	0	8
• <i>Others</i>	7	21	3	31