

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 445
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

ASSISTANCE TO ONION AND TOMATO FARMERS

445. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE:
SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO:
SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:
SMT. SUPRIYA SULE:
PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:
SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION** उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the prices of onions and tomatoes have fallen drastically in the domestic market resulting hardship to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government to make sure that onion and tomato farmers get optimum price for their produce;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the loss suffered by the onion and tomato farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide any financial assistance to onion and tomato farmers of Maharashtra to pull them out of this crisis;
- (e) whether inadequate and improper storage facilities and lack of number of godowns in the country is one of the major reasons for suffering of farmers in the country; and
- (f) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री बी.एल.वर्मा)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

(a) : No, Sir. The prices of onions and tomatoes have not fallen drastically in domestic market. The all-India retail prices of onions and tomatoes as on 19.07.2024 are Rs. 44.15 per kg and Rs. 72.69, respectively.

(b) to (d) : Does not arise.

(e) & (f) : Highly perishable commodities like onions and potatoes requires controlled atmosphere technology for storage. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure as one of the component of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with the objective of arresting post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for setting up of integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facility without any break from the farm gate to the consumer. The integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure can be set up by individuals, groups of entrepreneurs, cooperative societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), NGOs, Central/State PSUs, etc.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, financial assistance is being provided for setting up of new cold storage infrastructure. Assistance is available to individuals, Group of farmers/ growers/ consumers, Partnership/ Proprietary firms, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs), Companies, Corporations, Cooperatives, Cooperative Marketing Federations, Local bodies, Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC) and Marketing Boards and State Governments.
