

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:176  
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011  
PRICES OF ONION  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Delhi has witnessed a sudden hike in onion prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the onion prices are stable in other cities of the country;
- (d) if so, the details of rise in onion prices from October, 2010 till date in cities like Mumbai, Nasik, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai and Nagpur;
- (e) whether the Government is supplying adequate quantity of onion to other cities and rural parts of the country on the lines of Delhi to make onion available at cheaper rates there;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the onion growers are getting less remunerative prices despite the selling of onion at 60 to 75 rupees per kg. in the country; and
- (h) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide remunerative price to onion farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Prices of onion in Delhi have been fluctuating due to changes in demand-supply conditions particularly in the recent months in the wake of delayed monsoon, inadequate rains and untimely and erratic rains in some areas of kharif onion growing states damaging the crop. Onion Prices in Delhi in recent months is shown below:

Wholesale Prices of Onion (Rs/Qtl)

Oct 2010 Nov 2010 Dec 2010 Jan2011 Feb 2011

Delhi 1355 1625 2170 2428 976

Source: Deptt. of Consumer Affairs

(c) & (d): In other cities also there are fluctuations in onion prices due to supply shocks resulting in damage to crop. Prices of Onion in major cities from October 2010 are as follows:

Wholesale Prices of Onion (Rs/Qtl)

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb  
2010 2010 2010 2011 2011  
(upto Second  
week)

Mumbai 1677 2296 3222 2910 1084  
Nasik 1410 1934 3012 2513 956  
Hyderabad 1995 2167 2770 2817 1509

Kolkata 1932 2600 3609 3120 1100  
Chennai 1665 2530 3140 3230 1230  
Nagpur 1787 1777 2994 3020 1438

Source: Deptt. of Consumer Affairs and NAFED

(e) & (f): Ensuring adequate supply of essential commodities like onion is the subject of respective state Governments and their respective Civil Supplies Departments are taking steps at their level to supply onions in their jurisdiction.

(g) & (h): When the prices are high the farmers naturally get remunerative prices. Whenever the prices fall below remunerative levels the state governments can request the Government of India for assistance under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).