

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1040
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011
PRICES OF VEGETABLES
Singh Chaudhary Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the retail prices of vegetables have been much higher as compared to their Whole Sale Price during the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to control food inflation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The retail prices will always be higher than the wholesale prices as the distribution, transport cost and other marketing costs will be added to the retail prices. In addition retailers will also charge their commissions for the selling prices.

The prices of onion had registered a rise in December, 2010 due to damage to Kharif onion crops as a result of untimely rains during November and December, 2010 in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. However, with the improvement in production of late Kharif onion, the retail and wholesale prices of onion have sharply declined. The details of the retail and wholesale prices during July 2010 to Jan 2011 are given in Annexure-I (a) & (b) respectively.

(c): The steps taken by the Government to contain the prices of essential commodities are given in Annexure-II.