

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1071
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011
PRICE OF VEGETABLES
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Kishor Shri Kamal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the middlemen/hoarders instead of the farmers are being benefited by the steep rise in the prices of vegetables and other horticulture items;
- (b) whether the Government has made any assessment of the huge difference between the prices of the commodities given to the farmers and the market price of the same;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to amend the laws of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee to enable the farmers direct access to consumer markets; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): No, Madam.

(b): Yes, Madam.

(c) & (d): The report of the Millennium study (2004) of Ministry of Agriculture indicate that share of producer in consumer spending varies from 32-68% in case of fruits, vegetables and flowers. In order to facilitate better and remunerative prices to the producers by way of providing choice of alternative marketing channels to them, Ministry of Agriculture has circulated the Model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development of Regulation) Act 2003 (APMC Act) to all the States and Union territories for adopting the same in their respective State APMC Act. The Model APMC Act provides for direct marketing including provision for farmers-consumers markets, contract farming and setting up of markets in private and co-operative sectors. The status of market reform is at Annexure.

In order to incentivize the investment for development of marketing infrastructure in the country various plan schemes are being implemented by the Government. A reformed linked plan scheme of Development/ Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing, Grading and Standardization has been introduced to promote marketing infrastructure and value addition to agricultural commodities including the perishable horticultural commodities in the country. A scheme of setting up of Terminal Market Complex has been launched under assistance from National Horticulture Mission for promotion of vegetables and other horticultural commodities. Assistance for cold chain development and post-harvest management of perishable horticultural produce is provided under various schemes such as National Horticulture Mission, Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Board.

(e): In view of above, the question does not arise.