

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:710

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

PRODUCTION OF ONION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been bumper production of onions, tomato, potato etc. in various parts of the country during the current season;
- (b) if so, the total production of these commodities in each State/Union Territory during the current season in comparison to the previous year;
- (c) whether incidents of distress sale and throwing away of produce, including tomato, potato, onions and other such commodities has been reported from the various parts of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard and to ensure that farmers got minimum price for their produce?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): As per present estimates, there is no significant variation in the production of onions, tomato, potato etc.in various parts of the country during the current season. A statement showing production of onions, tomato, potato etc. in each State/Union Territory during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12 is annexed.

(c) & (d): Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, upon receipt of proposals from State Governments implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, under which losses, if any, are shared between the Central Government and the State Government concerned on 50:50 basis. During the current year, MIS proposals from Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh for procurement of 54,000 MT of onion @Rs.6000 per MT and 100,000MT of potato @ Rs.3280 per MT, respectively, was agreed to.

(e): Government of India provides assistance under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) schemes for development of infrastructure for post harvest management including establishment of cold storages and setting up of terminal markets, wholesale market and rural primary markets/apni mandies to ensure adequate supply of fruits and vegetables to the consumers at reasonable prices and also to provide remunerative returns to the farmers. In addition, National Horticulture Board (NHB) provides assistance for establishment of cold storages. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) is a Central Agency implementing MIS operations of agricultural commodities including onion, tomato and potato.