

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

RAJYA SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *170
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020**

IMPORT OF ONIONS

*170. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries from whom Government imported onions to check scarcity and contain the hike in onion prices in the country; and
- (b) the reasons why some of the States have not preferred the imported onions and the loss suffered by the Central Government in this regard along with the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री
(श्री राम विलास पासवान)

**THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)**

(a) & (b) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*170 FOR 06.03.2020 REGARDING IMPORT OF ONIONS.**

(a) : Based on the direction of the Government, MMTC floated global as well as country-specific tenders for import of onions to check scarcity and contain the hike in onion prices in the country. The stock available in producing countries like Egypt, Turkey and Holland were utilized by successful bidders for supplying the bid quantity. MMTC contracted import of 41,950 metric tonnes (MT) of onions, against which import of about 35,857 MT onions materialized.

(b) : About 3392 metric tonnes of imported onions have been supplied by NAFED to various States/ UTs based on their demand, as detailed at **Annexure**. Some of the States have not preferred to take imported onions on account of reasons which primarily include moderating prices and improving availability of onions, lack of retailing network, lower consumer preference for imported onions, availability of local variety etc. To avoid loss on account of damage/ drriage of imported onions, Government directed MMTC and NAFED to dispose imported onions at prevailing market/ mandi/ online portal rates, in addition to supplies to States. As on 02.03.2020, a total of about 27,978 MT imported onions was disposed off by NAFED and MMTC.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*170 FOR 06.03.2020 REGARDING IMPORT OF ONIONS.

Dispatch of imported onions to various States/ UTs

S.No.	States/ UTs	Quantity (in MT)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1230.42
2	Kerala	49.89
3	Telangana	111.68
4	Uttar Pradesh	211.79
5	Uttarakhand	287.08
6	West Bengal	123.19
7	Himachal Pradesh	120.64
8	Assam	536.26
9	Goa	50.31
10	J&K	45.71
11	Haryana	*342.34
12	Meghalaya	282.59
	Total	3391.90

Source: NAFED

*Out of this, a quantity of 331.63 MT is reported to be not accepted by Haryana Government and the stock was diverted for sale in Local Mandi.
