

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 329
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/12/2022

DROP IN PRICE OF APPLE IN KASHMIR

329. SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the drop in apple prices in Kashmir due to disruption in movement and lack of cold storages;
- (b) the number of cold storage facilities constructed by Government in Kashmir post the abrogation of Article 370;
- (c) the reasons for the frequent halting of apple-laden trucks leaving Kashmir for different parts of the country on the arterial Srinagar-Jammu National Highway; and
- (d) the reasons for not implementing a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to help Kashmir's apple growers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) As per information received from Jammu & Kashmir, the rates/prices are governed by many factors like supply and demand. This year, the apple crop is having a bumper harvest and due to warm weather, the marketing of fruit has been advanced by some days, as a result unregulated/more supply in the mandies caused a drop in the prices of apples. The National Highway is under construction and on few occasions, the traffic gets halted which also has some impact on prices. As regards cold storage facility, the Government is putting all efforts to create more cold storage infrastructure in the UT. At present, 2.83 lakh MT cold storage capacity is created under various Government schemes in Jammu & Kashmir.
- (b) Post the abrogation of Article 370, twenty one Cold Storages with capacity of 99,555 MT have been constructed in the UT.
- (c) National Highway gets damaged or broken due to natural calamities, hence it is repaired from time to time due to which the traffic gets halted.
- (d) Government of Jammu & Kashmir reported that no proposal is under consideration of the Government.
