

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-361**  
ANSWERED ON-09/12/2022

**PRODUCTION OF TOMATO AND ONION**

361. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that tomato production is estimated to have declined during this crop year;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that onion output has remained higher than the previous year; and
- (c) the advance measures Government proposes in order to deal with the situation so that the interests of farmers and consumers are protected equally?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) As per the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advance Estimates of Area and Production of Horticulture Crops for 2021-22, the production of Tomato is estimated as **20331 thousand MT**, which is 4% lower than the estimated production of 2020-21.
- (b) As per the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advance Estimates for 2021-22 the production of Onion is estimated as **31273 thousand MT**, which is 17% higher than the estimated production of 2020-21.
- (c) Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on essential commodities for monitoring the availability and prices of essential commodities, including Tomato and Onion, on a weekly basis and taking remedial measures whenever needed.

Government maintains onion buffer under the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) by procuring Rabi onion from farmers/ FPOs for release during August-December to stabilize prices. In 2022-23, a total of 2.51 LMT onion was procured during April- July 2022 from the farmers and FPOs at farm gate for the PSF buffer; a quantity of 1.50 LMT has been disposed as on 30.11.2022 to contain the prices of onion.

Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of Agricultural and Horticultural commodities including Tomato and onion, which are perishable in nature and for which Minimum Support Price (MSP) is not announced. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic level/ cost of production. The scheme is implemented at the request of a State/UT Governments. Under the Scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by the agencies designated by the State Government.

Further, Government also implements the Scheme -“Operation Greens” under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain. The main objectives of the *Operation Greens* inter alia include enhancing value realization of produce of farmers, price stabilization for producers and consumers, reduction in post-harvest losses, increase in food processing/ preservation capacities and value addition.

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