

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

RAJYA SABHA  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2563**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11/08/2023

**SUPPLY CHAIN OF PERISHABLE COMMODITIES**

2563. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are supply chain issues in transporting vegetables from place of production to other regions;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government for building organized value chain, eliminating middlemen and amending rules of Agricultural Produce Market (APM) commodities to reduce commission and other fees;
- (c) if not, the data on farmers' share vis-a-vis the amount paid by consumers for perishable items such as tomato between 2019-2023 across States; and
- (d) the number of processing units of tomato that link tomato value chains with processing units between 2019-2023 across States?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Agricultural marketing is a state subject. However, in order to make supply chain of agricultural perishables including vegetables seamless from the region of production to the consumption and to encourage private sector investment in development of value chain and marketing infrastructure so as to improve supply efficiencies and reduce supply losses, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), has been pursuing with the States to de-regulate marketing of fruits and vegetables outside the market yards. Responding to pursuance, most of the State Governments have deregulated fruits and vegetables though in varied forms.

As per the information received from Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Ministry is implementing the Centre Sector Umbrella Scheme, namely, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) and the Operation Greens is one of the sub-schemes under PMKSY. The Operation Greens scheme has two components - (a) Short Term Interventions and (b) Long Term Interventions.

Under Long Term Interventions component of the Scheme, Ministry provides financial assistance @35% of eligible project cost for projects in General Areas and @50% of eligible project cost for projects in Difficult Areas as well as for projects of SC/ST, FPOs and SHGs with maximum grants-in-aid of ₹15 crore per project under Integrated Value Chain Development Projects and that of ₹10 crore per project under Standalone Post Harvest Infrastructure Projects. Following 22 crops are eligible under Long Term Interventions component of the Scheme:

- i. Fruits (10): Mango, Banana, Apple, Pineapple, Orange, Grapes, Aonla/Amla, Pomegranate, Guava, Litchi
- ii. Vegetables (11): Tomato, Onion, Potato, Green Peas, Carrot, Cauliflower, Beans, Gourd Family {Bottle Gourd (Loki), Bitter Gourd (Karela), Ridge/Sponge Gourd (Torai) Pointed Gourd (Parval) and Ash Gourd (Petha)}, Okra, Garlic and Ginger
- iii. Marine (1): Shrimp

As per the information received from Ministry of Railways, Kisan Rail trains have been introduced by Indian Railways to move perishables including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fishery and dairy products from production or surplus regions to consumption or deficit regions. Indian Railways, with its pan-India network, forms an integral part of the government plan to raise incomes in farm sector by encouraging transportation by rail.

Further, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is also implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including post-harvest management infrastructure such as construction/Expansion/Modernization of cold storages of capacity up to 5000 MT, purchase of refrigerated transport vehicle for 9MT and pro-rata basis for lesser capacity but not below 4MT and market infrastructure such as creation of wholesale market, rural primary market, functional infrastructure etc in the country. These components are demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available through respective State Horticulture Missions.

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