

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2114**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016

**PRICES OF ONION**

2114. SHRI ARKA KESHARI DEO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the wholesale price of onions has fallen to Rs. 2/- per kilogram during the month of August and September this year and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the super market rate of onion is still at about Rs. 15/- to 20/- per kg and if so, the reasons for such a wide gap between the wholesale price and the super market price of onion in the country; and
- (c) the proposed plan of the Government to stabilize onion price in future?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a) & (b): As per the AGMARKNET data, the average wholesale price of onion was Rs.1235/- per quintal and Rs.1054/- per quintal during the months of August and September, 2016 respectively. Prices of onion fell during this period due to higher production. Monthly average wholesale and retail prices of onions for the months of August and September, 2016 at four Metro cities are as under :

(Rs. per kg.)

cities	August, 16		September, 16	
	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail
Chennai	10	16	10	15
Delhi	8	22	7	21
Mumbai	8	17	6	18
Kolkata	13	19	13	19

Source: Deptt. of Consumer Affairs.

The gap between wholesale and retail price depends on factors such as transportation cost, loading/ unloading expenses, grading/sorting, wholesaler's margin, wastages during movement/weighing, location of retail shops, fixed overhead expenses of retailers and margin of retailers etc.

(c): The Government through 'Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)' may provide support prices to farmers in case of glut in production and resultant fall in market prices, based on the proposal/request of State Government. In addition, Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) may also be used to procure onions for subsequent release to control the volatility in its prices.