

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3348**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2023

**ASSISTANCE TO ONION FARMERS**

3348. SHRI JAI PRAKASH :

SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ :

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

(a) whether the Government has directed its agencies viz., National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) to aid onion farmers of Maharashtra who have been hit due to crash in prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that some farmers in Maharashtra could get Rs. 2 only for more than 5 quintals of onion; and

(d) if so, the reasons for which income of onion growing farmers have declined instead of getting doubled?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Yes sir, Government has taken a decision to procure 2.50 lakh metric tons of Rabi-2023 onion to stabilize the prices during lean season through Central Nodal agencies (CNAs) i.e., NAFED and NCCF in equal halves.

In recent weeks the prices of onion have fallen below Rs.10/kg in major mandis in Nashik belt of Maharashtra due to bumper arrival of late kharif crop and expected early arrival of rabi crop. The government has directed NAFED and NCCF to initiate procurement of onion from these markets for simultaneous disposal in consumption centers outside Maharashtra.

NAFED has commenced its procurement on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 and NCCF from 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. As on date, both CNAs have procured total quantity of 12,950 MT (NAFED – 9,749 MT, NCCF-3201 MT)

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