

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2505
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2019

EXTREME PRICE VOLATILITY IN VEGETABLES

2505. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA: SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that tomatoes, onions and potatoes, the three basic vegetables face extreme price volatility;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government is in a fix in fulfilling its dual objectives of ensuring remunerative prices for farmers and affordable prices for consumers?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) & (b) : Price rise and fall of vegetables, including tomatoes, onions and potatoes, are influenced by their demand and supply which depend on factors like cost of inputs (fertilizers, rural wages), perishability and storability of the produce, transportation cost, loading/ unloading expenses, grading/sorting, wholesaler's margin, losses during movement, cost and margin of retailers, supply chain constraints like lack of storage and cold chain facilities, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing and adverse weather conditions etc.

(c) : Government strives to ensure remunerative prices for farmers and affordable prices for consumers through its schemes/ programmes.
