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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 409  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2020  

RISING PRICES OF ONION, POTATO AND VEGETABLES  

409. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:  

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

(a) whether onion is being sold at the retail price of around Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per kilogram in  
the market due to lack of timely intervention by the Government in this regard;  
(b) whether potato is also being sold at the rate of Rs. 40-50 per kilogram in market despite the  
harvesting of new crops of potato;  
(c) whether potato, onion and tomato are the main vegetables for Indians and they are feeling the  
punch of the increase in their prices; and  
(d) the measures being taken by the Government to bring the prices of the vegetables down and  
make these available to the common people at affordable price?  

ANSWER  

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

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

(a) to (c) : Details of all India average retail prices of onion, potato and tomato is at Annexure. As  
per the area and production of horticulture crops for 2018-19 (3rd Advance Estimates) brought out by  
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare; Potato, Onion and Tomato together  
accounted for about 52% of total vegetable production in 2018-19.  

(d) : Government takes various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food  
items including vegetables which, inter-alia, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy  
instruments like import duty, Minimum Export Price, export restrictions, imposition of stock limits  
and advising States for effective action against hoarders & black marketers etc. to regulate domestic  
availability and moderate prices. Besides, Government is also implementing Price Stabilization  
Fund (PSF) to help moderate the volatility in prices of agri-horticultural commodities like onion and  
potato. Government banned export of onions and imposed stock limits on traders under Essential  
Commodities Act on 29.09.19. Government also imported onions for augmenting availability and  
moderating its prices.  

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.409 FOR 04.02.2020 REGARDING RISING
PRICES OF ONION, POTATO AND VEGETABLES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Price As On</th>
<th>1 Week Ago</th>
<th>1 Month Ago</th>
<th>2 Months Ago</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potato</td>
<td>24.99</td>
<td>27.16</td>
<td>26.55</td>
<td>23.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Onion</td>
<td>49.96</td>
<td>56.61</td>
<td>92.68</td>
<td>76.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomato</td>
<td>24.32</td>
<td>26.02</td>
<td>26.58</td>
<td>33.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: States/UTs Civil Supplies Department.