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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2446 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021

FAIR PRICE TO FARMERS FOR GREEN VEGETABLES

2446. SHRI DHARAMBIR 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 the Government is aware that a farmer has to sell his vegetables produce for Rs. one or two per kilogram and when the same produce is sold in the market by retailer it is sold at Rs. sixty to hundred per kilogram;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has contemplated any plan to give fair price to the farmer for green vegetables (tomato and onion);
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has prepared any plan to check the black marketing on onions and tomatoes, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री (श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) : Prices of vegetables are determined by the normal market forces of demand and supply as well as production/harvest season. The prices of vegetables are also influenced by other factors such as disruptions in supply chain, functioning of mandis, rainfall, labour, transportation etc. The Government is implementing market information system where the prices of vegetables are collected through Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis and disseminated for its use by the farmers through Agmarknet portal, Mobile applications etc. for better price realization.

To give fair price to the farmers for green vegetables, the Government is implementing the scheme of 'Operation Greens' for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain since 2018-19. The major objectives of the scheme inter alia include enhancing value realization of TOP farmers; Price stabilization for producers and consumers; reduction in post-harvest losses; increase in food processing capacities and value addition in TOP value chain by creating firm linkages with production clusters. Further, the Government has extended the Short Term Price Stabilization Measures from Tomato, Onion and Potato to another 41 notified crops-fruits and vegetables w.e.f 11.06.2020. As on 19.07.2021, total subsidy of ₹47.66 crore has been released as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan under Operation Greens scheme.

(e) : No report of black marketing of onions and tomato have been received from the States/UTs. State Governments as well as Central Government continue to exercise powers under the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 for preventing such practices.