

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5463**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2022

**Remuneration to Potato Farmers**

5463. SHRI GIRISH CHANDRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is a huge gap between wholesale selling price of potatoes by farmers and retail selling price by vendors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has made any effort to bridge the gap between both and to ensure remunerative price to potato farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (b) : The price of agricultural produce depends on multiple factors such as demand, supply, quality, logistic cost, storage cost and weather etc. The reason for the gap between wholesale selling price of potatoes by farmers and retail selling price by vendor can be due to multiple reasons such as transportation and logistics costs, storage cost and handling charges as well as wastages due to post harvest handling etc in supply chain at any given point of time. Potato is produced mostly in Rabi season but consumed round the year.

(c) to (d) : In order to provide remunerative price to farmers, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agriculture and horticulture commodities which are perishable in nature and for which Minimum Support Price (MSP) is not announced. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The scheme is implemented at the request of a State/UT government which is ready to bear 50 percent of the loss (25 percent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation.

Further, as a part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Package, Government is implementing the OG-TOP (Operation Greens) to TOTAL Scheme for providing 50% subsidy for transportation and storage for evacuation of 41 notified Fruits and Vegetables including Potato from surplus production area to consumption centers.

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