

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4170
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH AUGUST 2025

CULTIVATION OF HIGH QUALITY SMALL ONIONS

4170. SMT. D K ARUNA:
SHRI EATALA RAJENDER:

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

- (a) whether south Indian small onions are in high demand in domestic market as well as for exports to countries with significant population of South Indian migrants;
- (b) if so, the details of help/assistance given to onion associations for increasing production of high quality small onions in South India;
- (c) whether the small onions recently got their unique identity recognised with the grant of the Geographical Indication (GI) tag; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and revenue generated therefrom till now, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The Government implements the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a centrally Sponsored Scheme, for holistic growth of the horticulture sectors including onion cultivation. Under MIDH, assistance is provided for area expansion in case of open pollinated vegetables, including onions, @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 50,000/ha. for a maximum area of 2 hectares per beneficiary in general areas and in case of North-East and Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance is 50% of the maximum cost. In case of vibrant villages assistance is provided @ 80% of the maximum cost. There is no specific data on domestic demand & exports of South Indian small onions available with this Ministry.

(c) & (d): As per Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Chettikulam Small Onion from Tamil Nadu, for which the application was filed on 4 July 2022, has been registered as a Geographical Indication (GI) in the agricultural category under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. This Ministry does not maintain data on the revenue generated from South Indian small onions.
