

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2633
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH DECEMBER, 2025

LOSSES TO PERISHABLE CROPS DUE TO INADEQUATE STORAGE

2633. SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

- (a) the data of the quantity and value of perishable crops specifically onions, lemons and bananas produced by farmers along with the losses of harvested crop due to inadequate storage facilities during the last three years;
- (b) the information on the market rates received by farmers for the aforementioned perishable crops during their respective harvesting months as well as the average market rate throughout the year;
- (c) the overview of any schemes or special incentives available for constructing necessary special type storage facilities for these perishable crops such as onions, lemons and bananas, district-wise; and
- (d) the details on any studies conducted regarding the potential for extending the shelf life of perishable crops including onions, lemons and bananas produced by farmers, a onetime investment and benefit to farmers at a large?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Government of India, commissioned a "Study to Determine Post-Harvest Losses of Agricultural Produce in India". The report, submitted in 2022 based on 2020-21 data, estimates that fruits and vegetables production was 255.56 MMT, with post-harvest losses of 19.33 MMT valued at ₹57,004.15 crore. For banana, citrus (including lemon), and onion, production and estimated physical and monetary losses for 2020-21 are as follows:

Produce	Production in MMT	Losses in MMT (2022 report of NABCON)	Losses in Rs. Crores (2022 report of NABCON)	Savings over 2015 report of CIPHET (Rs. in crore)
Banana	33.06	2.50	5777.01	145
Citrus including lemon	14.24	1.10	4347.13	1116.38
Onion	26.64	1.93	5156.32	667.62

Due to implementation of schemes in mission mode, adoption of improved post-harvest technology, better storage infrastructure and enhanced training and awareness among farmers, post-harvest losses have been reduced significantly compared to earlier estimates.

(b) & (c): In India, harvesting and arrival of banana, lemon and onion continues throughout the year. Month-wise all-India weighted average modal prices, along with average prices received by farmers during the respective harvesting months, are at Annexure.

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing several schemes under which financial assistance is provided for creation of storage and post-harvest infrastructure for agricultural produce, including perishable crops such as onions, lemons and bananas. These include Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) under ISAM - for establishment of marketing and storage infrastructure in APMCs, cooperatives and the private sector, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) - for construction and modernization of cold storage facilities for horticultural produce and Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) under which concessional credit with interest subvention and credit guarantee is provided for creation of post-harvest facilities such as cold storages, ripening chambers and pack-houses.

In addition, Ministry of Food Processing Industries supports supply-chain and processing infrastructure through their Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana(PMKS), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLIS-FPI) scheme.

These interventions aim to minimize wastage, promote scientific storage and processing, enhance export potential and improve farmers' income.

(d): Scientific storage and control of temperature and humidity extend shelf life of perishable crops including onions, lemons & bananas. AIF and MIDH have supported such initiatives. Additionally, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAR) Start-up Program also supports innovations for better post harvest management.

Annexure

Month-wise all-India weighted average modal prices, along with average prices

Month	Price (Rs./Qtl.)		
	Banana	Lemon	Onion
December-2024	3574	3936	2716
January-2025	3893	3802	2086
February-2025	4168	4492	2090
March-2025	3927	7070	1671
April-2025	3640	7063	1115
May-2025	3341	4218	1014
June-2025	3443	2704	1225
July-2025	3112	2156	1235
August-2025	3270	2753	1255
September-2025	2583	2852	1077
October-2025	2349	2391	1059
November-2025	4134	3330	1066
Average yearly Price	3453	3897	1467

Source: Agmarknet
