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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2759

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND AUGUST, 2016

REMUNERATIVE PRICES FOR ONION

2759. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ‡ãoŠãaÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããè be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the onion farmers are getting adequate remunerative prices for their produce in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the onion growers have suffered losses on account of import of onion in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) whether the Government has provided adequate assistance for development of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing facilities to onion growers in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure remunerative prices to onion growers in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããÊã¾ã ½ãñâ À㕾ã ½ãâ¨ããè (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a): Price of onion differs from place to place and depends on various factors such as seasonality of production, quality of produce, mismatch in demand and supply etc. Production of onion has increased about 7% in 2015-16 over the previous year. The average cost of production of rabi onion was around Rs.6-7 per kg. The average wholesale prices of onion prevailing in major states are given below:

(Rs. In Quintal)

| States | Current Week 28/07/2016 | Previous Week 21/07/2016 | A Month Ago 28/06/2016 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Delhi | 825 | 750 | 700 |
| Haryana | 1250 | 1325 | 1100 |
| Punjab | 1367 | 1267 | 933 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1213 | 1163 | 1188 |
| Gujarat | 1175 | 1181 | 1188 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 917 | 950 | 917 |
| Maharashtra | 1269 | 1269 | 1204 |
| Rajasthan | 1050 | 1000 | 967 |
| Bihar | 1133 | 1133 | 1083 |
| West Bengal | 1400 | 1320 | 1050 |
| Telangana | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 |
| Seemandhra | 1367 | 1483 | 1333 |
| Karnataka | 1500 | 1350 | 1450 |
| Tamil Nadu | 1280 | 1360 | 1320 |
| All India Average | 1210 | 1197 | 1117 |

Source: D/o Consumer Affairs

(b): No, Madam. The import of onion is very low. The year-wise import of onion is as shown:-

| | | | | (in Tonnes) |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Period | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 (up to |
| | | | | June) |
| | 17846 | 813 | 87324 | 0 |

- (c): Government has taken numerous steps for infrastructure development, post harvest management and marketing facilities to ensure remunerative prices to horticulture farmers including onion growers in the country. These include the following:
 - Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture in the country including creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing.
 - Facilitating direct marketing, contract farming, setting up of private markets, farmer consumer markets and e-markets.
 - Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), implemented for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, including onion which aims to provide remunerative prices to the farmers in case of glut in production and fall in prices. Under the MIS, losses, if any, are shared between the Central Government and State Government concerned on 50:50 basis.
 - Providing market information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets on AGMARKNET portal.
 - "Market Information Service for Horticulture Crops" implemented by National Horticulture Board (NHB) which has established a network connecting 35 major wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in the country. The information generated is available on NHB website.
