

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 222**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

**VOLATILITY IN TOP PRICES**

222. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the trend in the average retail price of a kg of Tomato, Onions and Potatoes (TOP) between 2018-23, month-wise;
- (b) the reasons behind the price volatility in TOP value chains; and
- (c) the impact of "Opening Greens" scheme launched by Government in 2018-19 to stabilise value chains on post-harvest losses of farmers during 2018-2023?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) : The month-wise average all-India retail price trends between 2018-23 in respect of Tomato, Onions and Potatoes (TOP) are **annexed**.

(b): The volatility in prices of TOP is attributed to various factors including seasonality in production, adverse weather conditions, logistics disruptions due to heavy rains and flood situation, supply chain constraints, high perishability etc.

(c) : Operation Greens is one of the sub-schemes of the umbrella scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY), being implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The objectives are (i) enhancing value realization of produce for farmers; (ii) protect the growers from making distress sale; (iii) increase in food processing/preservation capacities and value addition; and (iv) reduction in post-harvest losses. The scheme has both short-term interventions component and long-term interventions component. The short-term interventions include transportation and storage subsidy to individual farmers, group of farmers, farmer producer organisations, farmer producer companies, cooperative societies, State Marketing and Co-operative Federation, food processors, licensed commission agents, exporters and retailers etc. Under the long term interventions, grants-in-aid are being provided for Integrated Value Chain Development Projects and Stand-alone Post-Harvest Infrastructure Projects

Subsidy amount of Rs.115.10 crore has been provided under the short-term interventions component of Operation Greens Scheme during 2020-21 to 2023-24.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.222 FOR 21.07.2023 REGARDING VOLATILITY IN TOP PRICES.****All India Monthly Average Retail Prices of Potato (Rs./Kg)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	14.74	14.56	15.24	16.6	18.74	20.29	21.51	21.6	21.59	22	22.05	19.41
2019	16.93	16.13	15.35	15.96	16.98	18.2	19.09	19.03	18.9	20.57	22.83	25.35
2020	26.83	23.28	23.06	26.43	25.82	27.16	30.59	33.25	36.7	39.53	44.59	37.63
2021	25.95	20.37	18.49	18.09	18.78	20.17	20.62	20.48	20.31	21.9	26.18	23.69
2022	21.48	20.35	20.57	20.88	22.73	24.99	26.48	27.41	27.85	28.47	28.82	25.96
2023	23.21	20.86	19.13	19.13	20.46	21.63						

**All India Monthly Average Retail Prices of Onion (Rs./Kg)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	42.69	35.12	26.18	19.28	16.72	17.78	21.02	21.6	20.6	21.41	22.02	19.36
2019	18.03	16.48	15.87	16.25	16.96	19.04	21.11	24.82	38.3	47.02	61.08	94.95
2020	64.23	38.65	31.2	28.02	21.66	20.62	21.53	22.63	31.58	50.2	59.26	44.33
2021	38.59	44.08	34.2	23.89	23.64	26.99	29.13	29.35	28.49	37.41	39.94	35.28
2022	34.56	35.16	32.1	25.78	23.44	23.98	25.36	25.55	25.83	27.8	30.9	27.57
2023	26.97	25.41	23.27	22.3	21.97	22.9						

**All India Monthly Average Retail Prices of Tomato (Rs./Kg)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	22.93	18.73	16.86	15.87	16.02	21.43	28.57	27.96	24.48	23.45	23.47	21.76
2019	22.98	19.95	21.84	25.89	32.57	35.89	37.31	38.71	31.2	38.59	38.38	28.95
2020	26.4	22.27	21.25	22.37	19.46	24.46	48.18	45.77	51.84	45.42	41.19	34.81
2021	25.14	23.58	19.07	18.57	18.32	21.27	26.8	30.06	27.99	43.05	58.32	53.62
2022	35.4	26.63	23.36	26.73	43.16	52.03	39.44	34.09	41.21	46.25	38.39	29.58
2023	24.72	23.45	23.32	23.16	23.61	32.58						

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