

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2305

TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2020

WASTAGE OF IMPORTED ONIONS

2305. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have either partially or completely withdrawn their claim to take the onions imported by Central Government;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) Government's plans to dispose of the rest of the onions that are lying in Government's warehouses?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) & (b) : Some of the States/UTs have not preferred to take imported onions or withdrawn their demand of imported onions on account of reasons which primarily include moderating prices and improving availability of onions, lack of retailing network, lower consumer preference for imported onions, not-so-preferred taste of imported onions due to its lesser pungency, availability of local variety etc.

(c) : Government directed MMTC and NAFED to dispose imported onions at prevailing market/ mandi/ online portal rates, in addition to supplies to States/UTs. As on 02.03.2020, out of the total imported quantity of about 35,481 MT onions, about 27,978 MT onions was disposed off by NAFED and MMTC, including supplies of about 3392 MT onions to various States/UTs based on their demand.
