



Adequate availability of Onion at affordable prices in the country

Fresh Kharif Onion arrivals gain momentum;

Onion mandi and retail prices show broad-based moderation across the country

Buffer stock disposal expanded to 123 cities, with 8 Kanda Express and 467 trucks

Government expands Calibrated and strategic release of buffer onion

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Onion Availability and Kharif Onion Scenario

The outlook for onion availability has strengthened considerably, with **higher Kharif acreage, favorable crop conditions, robust market arrivals and the commencement of fresh Kharif supplies** supporting the market. The improving supply position is already translating into a broad-based moderation in onion prices across mandis and major consumer markets.

Fresh Kharif onion arrivals have commenced from major producing States, including **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan**, while availability from stored stocks continues to meet market demands. Arrivals from these producing regions are expected to increase further in the coming weeks, improving overall availability in the consuming markets during upcoming festive season.

The production outlook for the Kharif crop is encouraging. **All-India Kharif onion acreage is estimated to be around 5 per cent higher than last year's already strong level**, with crop conditions remaining favourable across major producing regions. The rainfall outlook by IMD during the harvesting period also provides support to the crop, with no forecast of excessive rains in key Kharif onion regions in coming weeks to facilitate harvesting, drying and movement of onions and reduce the risk of moisture-related crop damage.

Onion mandi price scenario in Maharashtra

The strengthening supply situation is being reflected in mandi prices. Arrivals across key onion markets have remained robust, with the **weighted average mandi price in Maharashtra declining by nearly 13 per cent**, from around ₹4,030 per quintal on 16

September to about ₹3,475 per quintal on 3 October. The sustained moderation in mandi prices indicates that the increase in market arrivals is translating into improved supply conditions.

Onion Retail Price Scenario



The easing trend is also visible across retail markets. **126 cities have reported a decline of ₹1–21 per kg in retail onion prices over the past two weeks**, with moderation observed in major consuming States including **Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal**. The broad-based nature of the decline across geographically dispersed markets indicates that the improvement is not confined to individual mandis or regions but reflects strengthening availability across the country.

Strategic Release of Government Buffer Stock

The Government is also augmenting supplies to consuming centres through **buffer stock release**. **As on date, the government has disposed off more than 2.0 lakh Quintals through 8 Kanda Express and 467 trucks across 123 cities and is planning to deploy additional rail rakes**, enabling larger quantities of onions to reach high-consumption markets. These efforts are being further strengthened ahead of the festive season, with additional rail movements being planned to improve the speed and efficiency of supply distribution.

The combination of **fresh Kharif arrivals, availability from stored stocks and continued movement of buffer onions to consumption centres** provides multiple channels of supply to the market. The Government is maintaining close oversight of arrivals, stocks and price movements and is taking appropriate measures to facilitate orderly distribution and adequate availability wherever required.

Overall, **higher Kharif acreage, favourable crop conditions, conducive harvesting weather, robust arrivals and a broad-based decline in mandi and retail prices point to a comfortable onion availability outlook in the coming weeks**. With fresh Kharif Onion

supplies expected to gain further momentum and Government distribution efforts being strengthened ahead of the festive season, the supply position is expected to remain well supported and prices will further moderate.

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