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Title : Rise in onion prices adds to summertime inflation

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Retail rates of onion are Rs 24-26 per kg in parts of Byculla, Dadar, Bandra, Andheri, Chembur and Borivli. In Matunga, the bulb was selling for Rs 40 per kg

Onion prices rose by Rs 2 per kg in the Vashi wholesale market on Wednesday. Best quality onion sold for Rs 22 per kg as against Rs 20 on Tuesday.

The gradual incline is putting pressure on the middle class, which is commonly burdened with summer inflation from March to June until the monsoon arrives.

On Wednesday retail rates of onion remained Rs 24-26 per kg in parts of Byculla, Dadar, Bandra, Andheri, Chembur and Borivli.

In Matunga, the bulb was

selling for Rs 40 per kg. Here, retailers charged 100% more than the wholesale price.

Potato is also selling for Rs 24 per kg on average.

The rising cost of these two essential roots, and eventomato, has come as another burden to middle class households. Summertime commonly sees the cost of

vegetables rise by 20% on average, so buyers are already paying more for ordinary items of consumption. Over the past two days, tomato has touched a seasonal high of Rs 30 in places in Lokhandwala Complex, Andheri and Pali Market in Bandra.

Cauliflower, brinjal, bitter gourd, all selling for Rs 4050 per kg in February-March, cost Rs 60. French beans and green peas, always a little pricier than most vegetables, are selling for Rs 20 per quarter kg. The change is evident in the way vendors call out the price for a quarter kg instead of 1 kg.