

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: October 09,2020

Report Number: IN2020-0141

Report Name: COVID-19 in India - Weekly Food Retail Update

Country: India

Post: Mumbai

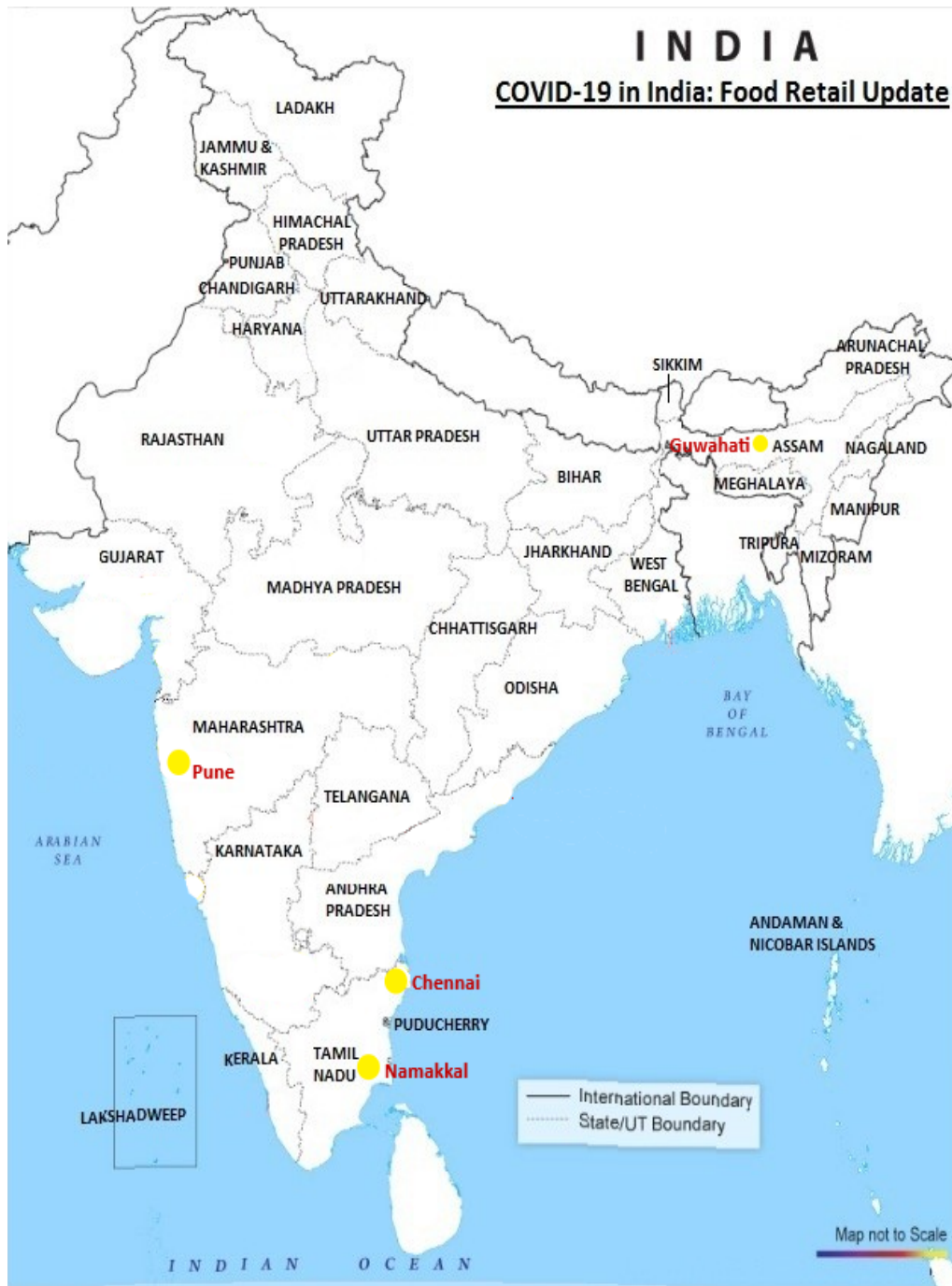
Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News, Retail Foods

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Report Highlights:

Weekly report as of October 9, 2020, of COVID-19 impact on India's food retail sector.



- 1. Guwahati:** Vegetable prices are soaring in the State of Assam. Staples such as tomatoes, onions, and potatoes have experienced significant price increases due to supply disruptions caused by excessive rains and floods in the major growing areas. According to local media reports, Assam's Chief Secretary plans to have the Department of Supply intervene and take steps to control the price hikes.
- 2. Chennai:** Koyambedu Market, Chennai's primary produce and grain market, has been partially reopened after a five-month closure due to COVID-19. The market has implemented stringent social distancing, hygiene, and testing requirements for traders and visitors. Onion prices at the market remain elevated due to tight supplies. Traders expect these prices to decline toward the end of November once the market receives new crop supplies.
- 3. Namakkal:** Wholesale egg prices have reached a record high at INR 5.25 (approximately USD \$0.072) per egg due to short supplies. According to the Tamil Nadu Poultry Farmers Marketing Society, poultry farmers reduced the number of egg-laying birds due to poor demand back in April and May, when prices fell below INR 1.50 (approximately USD \$0.02) during that time. In response, poultry farmers brought down egg production from 40 million to 30 million eggs a day to minimize losses. Production has not yet recovered despite the recent demand increase.
- 4. Pune:** The Pune Municipal Corporation is screening all vegetable and fruit market vendors in Hadapsar and Mundhwa while implementing strict social distancing and monitoring measures to control the spread of COVID-19. Authorities have warned that they will suspend permits of any vendor who resists screening.

Attachments:

No Attachments.