

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1787

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007

GROWTH RATE OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppasamy;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has projected the fruits and vegetable production growth at 6.8 percent per annum and likely to contribute significantly to upturn in overall agricultural growth during the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the achievements made so far during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) whether the assessment made at the time of inception of the said plan has not been achieved;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the growth rate of fruits and vegetables in the country after the mid term appraisal of the said plan;
- (f) if so, whether these steps have shown any encouraging results; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the strategy chalked out by the Government for Eleventh Five Year Plan?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

- (a): Yes, Sir.
- (b): The state-wise area and production of fruits and vegetables during the Xth Plan is annexed as Annexure-I & II.
- (c) & (d): It is expected that assessment made for fruits and vegetables production will be achieved by the end of X Plan.
- (e): Government has launched National Horticulture Mission, a mega project on horticulture, which envisages to double the production of fruits and vegetables by the end of Eleventh Plan period.
- (f): The Mission was launched during the year 2005-06 and it is too early to predict any outcome.
- (g): To achieve doubling of fruits and vegetables by the end of Eleventh Plan period, the National Horticulture Mission has adopted the following strategies:
  - (i) Ensuring an end-to-end holistic approach covering production, post harvest management, processing and marketing to assure appropriate returns to growers/producers;
  - (ii) Promote R&D technologies for production, post-harvest management and processing;
  - (iii) Enhance acreage, coverage, and productivity through:
    - (a) Diversification, from traditional crops to plantations, orchards, vineyards, flower and vegetable gardens;
    - (b) extension of appropriate technology to the farmers for high-tech horticulture cultivation and precision farming.
  - (iv) Assist in setting up post harvest facilities such as pack house, ripening chamber, cold storages, CA storages etc, processing units for value addition and marketing infrastructure;
  - (v) Adopt a coordinated approach and promotion of partnership, convergence and synergy among R&D, processing and marketing

agencies in public as well as private sectors, at the National, Regional, State and sub-State levels;

(vi) Where appropriate and feasible, promote National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) model of cooperatives to ensure support and adequate returns to farmers;

(vii) Promote capacity-building and Human Resource Development at all levels.