

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:190
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
ASSISTANCE FOR POMEGRANATE GROWERS
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the disease of bacterial blight has affected the major pomegranate growing States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds provided and utilised by such States during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether proposal received from Maharashtra regarding financial assistance for affected pomegranate growers is pending with the Union Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the funds are likely to be released?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Incidence of bacterial leaf blight was observed upto moderate level in Nagpur, Osmanabad and Latur districts of Maharashtra State during the year 2007-08. Attack of Bacterial Blight Disease (BBD) assumed serious proportions in Pomegranate crop during 2007-08 in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

(c): In order to control bacterial blight, a special package viz. Good Management Practices (GMP) has been developed in consultation with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and National Research Centre for Pomegranate, Sholapur. An amount of Rs.205.47 crore was released to these States during the period 2007-08 to 2009-10 for adopting GMP package, both in affected and disease prone areas. Statement showing details of assistance provided for control of BBD on Pomegranate during 2007-08 and 2008-09 is annexed.

(d) to (f): The State Horticulture Mission (SHM), Maharashtra submitted the requirement of funds during 2009-10 for GMP package to control BBD of pomegranate for Rs.153.67 crore including requirement of Rs.82.84 crore for 2007-08 and 2008-09 and requirement of Rs.73.83 crore for 2009-10. State Government was advised to avail Rs.100.00 crore from the available provision of Rs.162.94 crore under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Rs.53.67 crore under National Horticulture Mission (NHM). However, no further proposal was received from the State during 2009-10. For 2010-11, SHM, Maharashtra has been asked to send a revised proposal.