

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1052

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011

PRODUCTION OF FRUITS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of fruits in the country during each of the last three years, item-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the quantum and percentage of fruits lost due to improper post-harvest management during the said period, itemwise and State-wise;
- (c) the status of the current postharvest infrastructure for fruits, in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to further modernise and improve the postharvest infrastructure; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a): The statements giving details of total production of fruits in the country during each of the last three years, item-wise and State-wise are annexed at Annexure -I-A to I-C.

(b) & (c): According to a study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on 'Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of Major Agricultural Produce in India', the overall losses of fruits at national level ranges from 5.8% to 18% at different stages. The details of losses at national level of important fruit crops is given at Annexure -II.

(d) & (e): Government of India provides assistance under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH) to establish good Post Harvest Management infrastructure in the country. This includes establishment of cold storages (construction/expansion/modernization), integrated controlled atmosphere chambers, refrigerated vans, terminal markets, wholesale markets and rural primary markets/ apni mandies to ensure adequate supply of fruits and vegetables to the consumers at reasonable prices and also to provide remunerative returns to the farmers. National Horticulture Board is also implementing two schemes namely- i) Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops, and ii) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion /Modernization of Cold Storages for Horticulture Produce.