

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3262
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
BETEL LEAVES GROWERS
Saroj Smt. Sushila

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether betel leaves is being exported;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government is aware of pathetic condition of betel leaves growers;
- (d) if so, whether there is any proposal to grant agriculture status to betel leaves and extend insurance cover to betel leaves cultivation;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government to help the betel leaves growers?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A Statement showing country-wise export of betel leaves is Annexed.

(c): No, Madam. Though, the betel leaves growers are small land holders, they are getting sufficient returns.

(d) to (f): Betel leaf is covered under agricultural crops. The Government of India has been implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz., Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim, Uttarakhand, J&K and Himachal Pradesh (TMNE) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for the remaining states for holistic development of horticultural crops including betelleaf duly ensuring an end to end approach covering production and post harvest management.