

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4594  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011  
OLIVE CULTIVATION  
Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether there is a great demand for olive oil in the country due to substantial increase in the number of heart patients;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total olive cultivation and production in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether any study has been conducted to find out the technical feasibility and economic viability of olive cultivation in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the States where such farming is proposed to be started?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c): As per available information, area covered under olive cultivation in the country, State-wise is as under:-

S.No.	States	Area (ha)
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1	Jammu & Kashmir	481
2	Rajasthan	210
3	Himachal Pradesh	51
4	Uttarakhand	10

TOTAL	752
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The demand for olive oil in the country is assessed to be valued around Rs. 52 crore and the total production of olive in the country is estimated to be approximately 21 MT.

(d) & (e): As per the agro-climatic requirement for cultivation of olive, the potential states are Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The Government of Rajasthan with the help of an Israel-based company has initiated a pilot project to cultivate olive in the desert state. Sardarkrushinagar Dantewada Agriculture University in Gujarat is also conducting a study for assessment of suitable varieties of olive which can be grown in Northern Gujarat.

(f): The Government of Punjab is launching a pilot project for olive cultivation in the state over 300 ha in three commercial pilot plantations in North, Central and South Punjab.