

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5453
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE CROPS
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to develop potential horticulture crops by adopting crop cluster approach;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government intends to set up a Horticulture Crops Planting Material Authority for ensuring quality of planting material;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up separate missions for the development of fruits, vegetables, flowers, medicinal and aromatic plants; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes. Madam. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz (i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the country by adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach by ensuring an end-to-end approach covering production, post harvest management and marketing.

Development of horticulture clusters are aimed at developing production base for providing raw material not only for fresh consumption but also for setting up of infrastructure for post harvest management, processing and marketing.

(c) & (d): There is no proposal to set up a Horticulture Crops Planting Material Authority. Under the NHM and HMNEH, assistance is provided for setting up of Nurseries in public and private sector. State Governments ensure supply of quality planting materials for fruit crops by enactment of Fruit Plant Nursery (Regulation) Act and enforcement of its provisions through licensing of Horticulture Nurseries. Further, in order to put in place a system of recognition of Horticulture Nurseries, National Horticulture Board under the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the programme of voluntary system of recognition of Horticulture Nurseries which is a system of graded certification of production system and procedure in respect of a candidate Horticulture Nursery.

(e) & (f): Under the NHM and HMNEH, all the horticulture crops such as fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, plantation crops of cashew and cocoa are covered. Therefore, there is no proposal to set up separate Missions for the development of individual horticulture crops. For medicinal plants, there is a separate mission in the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH).