

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3397

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011

AREA UNDER HORTICULTURE

Choudhary Shri Harish;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of land under horticulture during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the productivity rate in the horticulture sector during the above period;
- (c) whether the Government has carried out any study with a view to ensure better processing of fruits and vegetables;
- (d) the various steps taken by the Government to enhance employment in this sector; and
- (e) the success achieved so far by the Government as a result thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A statement showing area of land under horticulture and productivity during the last three years, State-wise is given at Annexure-I.

(c): As per the report of the Task Force on Development of Cold Chain in India, constituted by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) in 2008, processing of fruits and vegetables in India is around 2.2%. Based on this report for better processing of fruits and vegetables, DAC provides assistance for establishing processing units under its centrally sponsored scheme namely Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH). Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) also provides assistance for new processing units/upgradation and modernization of existing units throughout the country under its plan schemes.

(d) & (e): Creation of employment opportunities is one of the objectives of HMNEH and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) under DAC. Under these missions, significant successes are being achieved in various components such as area expansion, nurseries, post harvest management, etc., with proportionate increase in employment in the horticulture sector.