GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3073 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011 CULTIVATION OF POMEGRANATE Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity of pomegranate produced in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the pomegranate growers in the country including Karnataka are suffering huge losses as the crop failed due to the vagaries of nature;
- (c) if so, the number of affected growers in the country including Karnataka during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the financial and other assistance provided by the Government to these growers for pomegranate cultivation?

Answer

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

(a): The total quantity of pomegranate produced in the country during the last three years and the current year is as under:

Year Production (000 MT) 2007-08 884 2008-09 807 2009-10 820 2010-11 850 (Provisional)

- (b) & (c): There is no report of suffering of pomegranate growers in the country including Karnataka because of failure of crop due to vagaries of nature, except in the State of Maharashtra, during the year 2010, an area of 14648 hectare pomegranate crop of 21134 growers was affected due to heavy rainfall. However, the Pomegranate crop has been affected by the Bacterial Blight Disease (BBD) in the State of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Total number of farmers affected by BBD in Karnataka is 7800 and 57654 in Maharashtra.
- (d): For cultivation of pomegranate, under National Horticulture Mission, subsidy is provided to the farmers @ 75 % of cost of cultivation of Rs.40,000/- per hectare. To control the BBD, a Good Management Practices (GMP) package was sanctioned under NHM during 2007 08 to the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra. The package was approved @ Rs.50,000/- per hectare, out of which 50% assistance was provided under NHM, 25% by the State Government and remaining 25% was borne by the farmers.