

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4314

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011

PRODUCTION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai;Premdas Shri ;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of fruits and vegetables have shown a declining trend while the prices have increased manifold in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any scheme/project to encourage the production of such seasonal fruits;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the production of fruits and vegetables and bring down the prices?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The production of fruits and vegetables has increased during the last three years. A statement showing the details of production of fruits and vegetables during last three years is given in the table below-

(in 000` MT)

Year 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11#

Fruits 68465.5 71515.5 75825.6

Vegetables 129076.8 133737.6 137686.6

Total 197542.3 205253.1 213512.2

Source: National Horticulture Board #2nd Advanced Estimate - Department of Agriculture & Cooperation

The wholesale price index for fruits and vegetables has shown some increase during the last three years as under:

Year 2008 2009 2010

Fruits & 131.9 3143.6 1163.02

Vegetables

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Prices of fruits and vegetables, which are mostly perishable commodities, by and large depend on market forces, prevailing weather conditions, cost of storage, transportation and rising demand due to increasing income and urbanization.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. To enhance the production and productivity of horticultural crops including fruits and vegetables, 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. A statement

showing the details of pattern of assistance under HMNEH and NHM is given at Annexure-I.

Good post harvest management and market infrastructure is essential to stabilize prices of horticulture products, for which assistance is provided under these Missions for setting up of cold storages, terminal markets, wholesale markets and rural primary markets/apni mandies. National Horticulture Board is also implementing various schemes for enhancement of production of horticulture and its better storage.

Further, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a new programme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Cluster (VIUC), during 2011-12, under the aegis of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The Scheme is being implemented in one city each of 29 States having a population of one million or capital city.