

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:70
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
TISSUE CULTURE IN BANANA PLANTATION
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tissue culture in banana plantation is one more option to fight with diseases of banana plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has a proposal to grant subsidy to all the farmers of Maharashtra where tissue culture is being used in banana plantation;
- (d) whether the banana tissue culture plants are more resistant to fight viral diseases; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote tissue culture in banana plantation?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Planting material for banana which is developed by using tissue culture from disease free and healthy parent material is good option for developing true-to-type plants in large quantity.
- (c): There is no proposal to grant subsidy to all the farmers of Maharashtra who are growing tissue culture banana. However, the interested farmers can avail assistance for taking up tissue culture based banana cultivation under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) as per the norms of the Scheme.
- (d): Tissue culture based banana plants are resistant to viral disease provided the parent material is disease free and proper sanitation is maintained in the tissue culture unit.
- (e): The Government is providing assistance under NHM for taking up tissue culture based banana cultivation @50% of cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000/- per ha., limited to four ha. per beneficiary, in two installments of 75:25. Besides, the Government is also providing assistance for setting up new Tissue Culture (TC) laboratory as well as rehabilitation of existing TC laboratory. Assistance for setting up new TC lab is provided @100% of total cost of Rs. 100.00 lakh for the public sector whereas, for the private sector, the assistance is provided as credit linked back ended subsidy @50% of cost or Rs. 50.00 lakh per unit.