

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1018

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

INCREASE IN HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of various schemes being implemented by the Government to promote horticulture in the country;
- (b) the number of States covered under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the country including Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra;
- (c) whether some States have proposed/requested to cover some more districts under these schemes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto, State-wise including Chhattisgarh;
- (e) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the States under the Scheme, State-wise;
- (f) whether the Union Government has achieved the desired success in implementing these schemes in the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a): 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. Besides, the National Horticulture Board is also implementing the Scheme of 'Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management'.

(b): Under NHM, eighteen States including Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra and three Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Puducherry are covered.

(c) & (d): Most of the States have been requesting to cover some more districts under National Horticulture Mission (NHM). However, NHM envisages a cluster approach for developing potential horticulture crops duly ensuring backward and forward linkages. While selecting the districts and clusters, comparative advantage of crops based on agro-climate conditions, potential for development and marketing opportunities are taken into consideration. Accordingly, 372 districts have been covered under NHM.

The General Council of NHM had decided that in order to avoid thin distribution of resources, efforts should be made to consolidate the implementation of the NHM programme rather than expand it. Non-NHM districts are eligible for assistance for creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing. These districts can avail assistance for horticulture development from schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

(e): State-wise details of financial assistance provided under NHM from 2005-06 to 2011-12 (16th March, 2012) are given at Annexure.

(f) and (g): Yes, Madam. Desired success has been achieved in implementing the NHM in the country. Under NHM, from 2005-06 to 2011-12 (up to February, 2012), 2289 new nurseries were setup, additional area of about 21.15 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 3.86 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. An area of 1.39 lakh hectare was covered under organic farming. An area of 20134 hectare was covered under protected cultivation (green house/shade net house cultivation, mulching etc) Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was adopted in an area of 9.46 lakh hectare apart from setting up of 386 INM/IPM infrastructure like disease forecasting units, bio control labs, plant health clinics and leaf/tissue analysis labs. Total 23889 community tanks were created for providing critical irrigation to horticulture crops. Under post harvest management component, 7675 units have been set up viz pack houses, cold storage/ CA /MA storage units, pre-cooling units, ripening chambers, refrigerated vans, mobile/primary processing units. To ensure proper handling and marketing of horticulture produce, 387 market infrastructure viz whole sale markets rural markets and infrastructure for collection, sorting grading and packing have been created.

Under HMNEH, from 2001-02 to 20011-12 (up to February, 2012), 1243 new nurseries and 27 tissue culture units were setup, additional area of about 6.80 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 0.645 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. Total 1135 community tanks were created for providing critical irrigation to horticulture crops. An area of 1030 hectare was covered under protected cultivation (green house/shade net house cultivation). Total 40 disease forecasting units and 53 mushroom units were also set up. Under post harvest management component, 35 cold storage units and 88 processing units were set up. To ensure proper handling and marketing of horticulture produce, 48 whole sale markets, 306 rural markets/apni mandies and 18 state grading laboratories were set up.