

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2613

ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012

PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the current demand and supply of vegetables and fruits in the country;
- (b) whether the production of vegetables and fruits have been affected due to drought like situation in the country;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation;
- (d) whether the farmers are not getting adequate prices for the their produce; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for effective implementation of the Market Invention Scheme (MIS) through NAFED and other Cooperative organisations so that farmers get adequate price for their produce?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The production of vegetables and fruits in the country is estimated to be 1505.86 and 752.74 lakh tonnes respectively, during 2011-12 as compared to 1465.54 and 748.78 lakh tonnes during 2010-11. The Government of India has been implementing Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the remaining States of the country for enhancing production and productivity of horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables. Under these missions, assistance is provided for establishment of nurseries, seed production for vegetables, enhancing quality production and productivity of fruits and vegetables through area expansion, protected cultivation, canopy management, integrated nutrient and water management, integrated pest management, rejuvenation of senile orchards, mechanization, Human Resource Development, etc. The prices of vegetables and fruits are primarily governed by the market forces of demand and supply. In addition, it also depends on prevailing weather conditions, cost of transportation, storage and rising demand due to increasing incomes, urbanisation, etc. DAC is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on request of State/ UT Governments for procurement of various horticultural commodities. The purpose of implementation of MIS is to protect the growers from making distress sales in the event of a bumper crop when there is glut in the market, causing prices to fall below economic levels/ cost of production. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared equally between the Central Government and the State Government concerned on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). MIS was sanctioned for procurement of 54,000 MT of onion at the Market Intervention Price of Rs.6,000 per MT w.e.f. 14.12.2011 to 14.01.2012 in Kamataka during 2011-12.