

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:751

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012

AGRICULTURAL AND ADVANCED PROCESSING PRACTICES

Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a lot of demand is coming from the global markets especially the European ones and the spice farmers have to adopt good agricultural practices and advanced processing practices to cash in on the opportunity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The demand of Indian spices in global market including European Union has shown an increasing trend. The export of spices has risen from 4,44,250 tonnes valued at `4435.50 crores in 2007-08 to 5,75,270 tonnes valued at `9783.42 crores in 2011-12.

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two centrally sponsored schemes namely Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories of the country for the holistic development of horticulture crops including spices. Under these Missions, assistance is provided for area expansion, adoption of good agricultural practices, promotion of organic farming & certification, integrated pest and nutrient management, setting up of bio- control labs, training of farmers, creation of post harvest & market infrastructure facilities and setting up of processing units.

Spices Board, Ministry of Commerce is implementing programmes to promote production & post harvest management of Export Oriented Spices, such as quality production at farm level, encouraging organic production of spices, integrated pest management, quality control labs, extension advisory service to spice growers and also to reduce the pesticide residue and aflatoxin in spices.