

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1203
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
BANANA TISSUE CULTURE PLANTS
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the banana tissue-culture plants are more resistant to viral diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to grant subsidy to all the farmers of Maharashtra who are growing tissue-culture banana plants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote tissue culture in banana plantations?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Tissue culture banana planting material ensures freeness from viral diseases but are not more resistant to viral diseases in the field.

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Horticulture Mission" for holistic development of horticulture including promotion of tissue culture banana plantations in Maharashtra, under which subsidy is provided for taking up area expansion of Tissue Culture Banana @ 50% of the cost up to a maximum of Rs.50,000/- per ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary. An amount of Rs.1253.36 lakh has been released during 2012-13 for area expansion of Tissue Culture Banana plantations in Maharashtra. Besides, assistance is also provided for setting up of tissue culture units for mass multiplication of tissue culture banana plants.