

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1232

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

AREA UNDER HORTICULTURE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any scheme to promote the production of fruits and vegetables in the country;
- (b) if so, the area of land under horticulture including fruits and vegetables production and the rate of productivity in the horticulture sector during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study of the horticulture sector from the view point of ensuring proper processing of fruits and vegetables; and
- (d) if so, the details of the further steps taken by the Government to enhance the employment opportunities in the horticulture sector along with the success achieved, so far?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing Centrally Sponsored schemes namely Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States and National Horticulture Mission for overall development of horticulture in the country. Horticulture development is also promoted under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters and National Horticulture Board.

The State-wise area, production and productivity of horticulture crops for last three years is annexed.

Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology under Indian Council of Agricultural Research has undertaken detailed studies on various aspects of post harvest processing of fruits and vegetables.

The infrastructural facilities created under these schemes such as nurseries, tissue culture units, green houses, mushroom units, centre of excellences, cold storages, processing units and markets have enhanced employment opportunities in the horticulture sector. These initiatives have significant growth in horticulture sector in the country: area under horticulture including fruits and vegetables have increased from 16.59 million ha in 2001-02 to 23.24 million ha in 2011-12 with corresponding increase in production from 145.78 million tonnes to 257.27 million tonnes.