

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2331
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
SETTING UP OF VEGETABLE CLUSTERS
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme for setting up of vegetable clusters in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to involve private players in setting up of vegetable clusters in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the other comprehensive measures adopted by the Government to maintain balance between the demand and supply of vegetables?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Government is implementing a scheme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for addressing all concerns related to demand and supply side of the vegetable sector, enhancing vegetable production & productivity and encouraging establishment of an efficient supply chain. The scheme covers one major urban centre in each State, which is either the State capital or any other city having a population of one million or above. In case, if there is no such city which satisfies this criteria, then other urban cluster closer to one million population is selected for the purpose.

Presently, all capital cities of the States are covered under the scheme except Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir where Gurgaon, Jammu & Srinagar have been taken up under the scheme respectively.

(c) & (d) The scheme encourages mobilization of farmers into groups/associations and their tie-up with financial institutions and aggregators.

Besides VIUC, Government is implementing schemes on (i) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and(ii) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) for the development of horticulture including vegetable in the country. Assistance is being extended for vegetable development activities such as seed production, protected cultivation, organic farming Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures as well as creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and Marketing of fruits and vegetables.

National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) is also being implemented to increase the productivity of crops including vegetables through drip and sprinkler system of irrigation.