

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5614  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013  
PRODUCTION OF WATER MELONS  
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether water melons are being produced on a large scale near the various river banks in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any scheme to provide incentives to the farmers producing water melons, cucumbers etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Water melons are being produced over an area of 1529 ha near river banks in the districts of Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Vaishali, Saran, Lakhisarai, Munger, Bhagalpur etc. in Bihar.

(c) & (d): 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 crops, including vegetables 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.

Besides, a new scheme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) was launched during 2011-12 as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for addressing issues related to demand and supply side of the vegetable sector, enhancing vegetable production & productivity and encouraging establishment of an efficient supply chain in 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.