

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5713
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
DECLINE IN APPLE PRODUCTION
Rajendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to global warming and climate change, production of apples in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir has been declining during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details of production of apples in various States including Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir during the said period, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the initiatives/steps taken by the Government to enhance the production of apples in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The productivity and quality of apple especially in mid hill conditions of sub temperate region has got effected due to global warming. However, overall production and productivity has increased in temperate high altitude areas owing to congenial climatic conditions.

As per the estimates, the production of apple in the country during the year 2012-13 is 27.08 lakh tonnes as compared to 22.04 lakh tonnes in 2011-12. The details of year-wise and state-wise production of apple during the last two years is as below:

(Production in lakh tonnes)
State 2011-12 2012-13#

Arunachal Pradesh 0.31 0.31

Himachal Pradesh 2.75 4.12

Jammu & Kashmir 17.75 21.42

Uttarakhand 1.23 1.23

TOTAL 22.04 27.08

First Estimate

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States for overall development of horticulture including apple production. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for strengthening of nurseries for production of quality planting material, establishment of tissue culture units, area expansion, high density planting, rejuvenation of senile orchards, creation of water resources, integrated nutrient and pest management, pollination support through bee keeping, provision of hail nets, HRD etc., to enhance production and productivity of apples.

Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar under Indian Council of Agricultural Research has undertaken research programme for identifying low chilling varieties & crops suiting to mid temperate areas. The low chilling crops such as peach, apricot, kiwi fruit, and low chilling apples are being evaluated alongwith suitable mitigation technologies for over coming global warming.