

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:288

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

SHORTAGE OF HORTICULTURAL PRODUCE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Horticulture Mission is being implemented in the country including Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is acute shortage of horticultural produce in the country thereby affecting the cost and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds allocated under the said Mission to various States including Rajasthan during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the export of horticultural products to various countries; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to promote horticulture and to provide remunerative prices to the farmers?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government of India is implementing the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in 18 states and 3 Union Territories including Rajasthan. The eight North Eastern States and the Himalayan states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are covered under Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH).

NHM aims to enhance horticulture production and improve nutritional security and covers all horticulture crops such as fruits, spices, flowers, and aromatic plants along with plantation crops of Cashew and Cocoa. Assistance is provided for taking up activities related to production of planting material, area expansion, rejuvenation of senile plantations, protected cultivation, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/ Integrated Pest Management (IPM) along with creation of infrastructure for Post Harvest Management (PHM) and marketing. Under the scheme, assistance for vegetables is provided through seed production, protected cultivation, INM/IPM and organic farming.

(b): The horticultural production has increased from 170.1 million MT to 257.3 million MT during 2004-2012. However, cost of horticulture produce is a derivative of various factors such as influence of weather, seasonal fluctuations in market arrivals and imperfections in marketing channels.

(c): State-wise details of funds allocated under the Mission, including Rajasthan during last three years and the current year is given in the statement at Annexure.

(d): Details of export of major horticulture produce during 2012-13 is given in the table below:-

Qty.- MTs		
Value in Rs. lakh		
2012-13		
Product	Qty	Value
Onions	1637675	192925
Grapes	172597	125867
Floriculture	27143	42342
Mangoes	55413	26476
Other Vegetables	651050	133420
Other Fruits	260698	74414

Source: Agriculture & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

(e): Government is implementing various schemes to promote horticulture in the country. These include Centrally Sponsored Scheme of NHM and HMNEH, Central Sector Schemes of National Horticulture Board (NHB) and Coconut Development Board (CDB).

In addition, assistance for setting up infrastructure for marketing of horticulture produce is provided under NHM, HMNEH and Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC). The Government has taken up the issue of amendments to the Agricultural Produce

Market Committee Act (APMC), on the lines of Model Act 2003, with States/UTs, which inter-alia provides for direct marketing, farmers/consumers markets, setting up of markets in private and cooperative sector and e-Åtrading etc. These reforms will provide alternate marketing channels to famers besides ensuring greater transparency.

Under the scheme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC), assistance is being provided for forming Farmer Interest Groups (FIGs) & Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and their tie-up with Financial Institutions and Aggregators for aggregation of produce, transport, processing, storage and sale at remunerative prices.