

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3939  
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014  
CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES  
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether India, in collaboration with Israel has started Centres of Excellence to improve the productivity of fruits and vegetables i.e., polyhouse farming across the country;
- (b) if so, the details along with the present status of implementation thereof;
- (c) whether polyhouse farming helps in improving yield per acre and whether it is proposed to extend the programme throughout the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Under the Indo-Israel Action Plan (2012-15), Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have been identified for development of Centres of Excellence (CoE) for demonstration and transfer of production technologies for fruits and vegetables, including protected cultivation through polyhouse farming.

(c) & (d): Protected cultivation of horticulture crops, including use of polyhouses helps in improving the productivity of various horticulture crops. This is promoted in the country under the ongoing schemes of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH). This programme is being continued during XIIth Plan Period.