

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:237
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
ACTIVITIES OF NERAMAC
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Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) the role and activities of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) and the employment generated in the North Eastern region as a result thereof;
- (b) whether NERAMAC has conducted any survey to identify the surplus agriculture and farm produces in the region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the strategies devised for the development of infrastructure and marketing;
- (d) whether NERAMAC proposes to diversify its activities to boost the economy and generate employment opportunities in the region; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region [General (Retd.) V.K. Singh]

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.237 for answer on 23/07/2014.

(a) Prime objective of the Corporation is as under:

- # To procure the marketable surplus of fruits & vegetables from the growers of North Eastern Region through market intervention.
- # To make necessary arrangement for its processing and marketing to give them remunerative prices
- # To support growers and producers through input supplies for better productivity under the various Central Sector Schemes & direct marketing
- # Help small food Processing Units market their products

Activities of NERAMAC generate direct employment to 87 persons which includes regular, casual & contractual employees. However, it provides indirect employment through following activities:

1. Procurement of agricultural products.
2. Processing – such as cleaning, grading, packing etc.
3. Marketing including loading, unloading etc. at both places, at Farm level as well as at the Mandis and at the market places.
4. Infrastructural development activities.

(b) and (c) NERAMAC has not conducted any specific survey to identify the surplus Agriculture and farm produces in the North Eastern Region. NERAMAC uses statistics of other agencies for working out its plan and programmes. A study was conducted by NERAMAC during 2008 through Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati to identify surplus agriculture produce in North Eastern States with a view to provide post harvest facilities like cold storage, grading and packaging of the Agro-Horticulture produce of the farmers of North East.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, besides its role in intervention in marketing of cash crops of north east, it has also initiated activities in different states of the north east as well as in other parts of the country for supply of quality planting materials, establishing projects like Model Floriculture Centre, Seed Infrastructure, Centre of Excellence & even organic adoption and certification work etc. It undertakes turnkey projects on horticulture, tissue culture, green house etc. from conception to commercial production including providing training to farmers and entrepreneurs as well as exposure visits with the support from Government of India. It has tied up with National Horticulture Mission (NHM); Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH) etc. under Mission for Integrated

Development of Horticulture (MIDH) programme. Besides, these activities , NERAMAC has initiated proposal under NLCP Scheme of the Ministry of DONER through respective state Governments for setting up infrastructure projects for the benefits of farmers of the north eastern states e.g. Cashew Processing Plant at Manakachar, Assam; Multi Food Processing Plant in Silchar; Central Packaging Centre at Chaygaon are few examples of infrastructure projects set up by NERAMAC for benefit of farmers of the region.