

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6299
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015
PRODUCTION OF GROUNDNUT AND CUMIN SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of production of groundnut and cumin seeds in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to increase the production of groundnut and cumin seeds;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure easier access to marketing and sufficient remunerative price for groundnut in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): State-wise details of production of groundnut and cumin seeds in the country during the last three years and the current years i.e. 2011-12 to 2014-15 are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c): In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseed crops including groundnut in the country, Government of India is providing incentives to farmers under Mini-Mission-I of the National Mission of Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) launched from April 2014. The incentives provided under MM-I of NMOOP include production and distribution of seeds, supply of mini kits, block demonstrations, farmers training, improved farm implements, sprinklers sets, water carrying pipes, supply of seed storage, beans, seed treatment drums, bio-pesticides, micro-nutrients etc.

In order to increase production, productivity and quality of horticultural crops including spices (cumin), Government of India has been implementing various Development Programmes under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), now subsumed under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). These programmes are being implemented through State Horticulture Missions (SHMs) of respective States.

To supplement efforts of SHMs, the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development undertakes nuclear seeds production programme of high yielding and export oriented variety of cumin seed for distribution to farmers. The cumin seeds production programme is being implemented through State Agri- cultural Universities of Rajasthan and Gujarat along with National Research Centre on Seed Spices (NRCSS), Ajmer under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

(d): Agri-Marketing sector is administered by States/UTs as per their Agriculture Product Marketing Regulation (APMR) Acts. However, with a view to reduce monopoly of Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs), increase market access to farmers, modernize Agri-Marketing infrastructure, etc. Government of India has been engaging with the State/UTs to reform their Agri-Marketing laws.

In order to ensure proper remunerative price to farmers, the Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities including Groundnut and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) undertakes procurement of notified oilseeds including Groundnut at MSP under Price Support Scheme (PSS) whenever the price goes below MSP. Government also advocates promotion of alternative marketing channels other than APMCs viz. permitting direct marketing, contract farming, setting up of private markets, etc. by the States.

Further, to enable farmers to take more informed decisions regarding production and marketing, the Government also provides market information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agriculture commodities including Groundnut in regulated markets on AGMARKNET portal.