

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1289
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
CHILLI CULTIVATION
Nimmala Shri Kristappa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area under chillies cultivation in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the chillies production in the country, including Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether poor monsoon has adversely affected the chillies production and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there are reports that the poor quality of the chilli had adversely affected its export;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to promote the cultivation of chillies and for improvement in the quality of chillies?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): As per information furnished by States/ UTs, chilli was cultivated on an area of 7.75 lakh hectare in the year 2013-14. State-wise details of area and production of Chilli in the country including Andhra Pradesh for the last three years are given at Annexure.
- (c): Yes, Madam. On enquiry with the Department of Horticulture, Andhra Pradesh, it is learnt that the production of chillies is likely to decrease by about 20% due to long dry spell and delayed monsoon.
- (d) & (e): The export of chilli and chilli products from India has shown steady increase both in quantity and value during the last five years. The details of export of chilli are given below:

Year	Quantity (Metric tones)	Value (Rs in Crores)
2009-10	204,000	1291.72
2010-11	240,000	1535.54
2011-12	241,000	2144.08
2012-13	301,000	2380.60
2013-14	312,500	2722.27
2014-15 (April - Dec)	247,000	2453.20

However, availability of quality chilli for export is one of the major hindrances being faced by the industry. Presence of aflatoxin and pesticide residues are affecting the export of chilli and products adversely.

(f): Several development programmes are being implemented for horticulture crops including chillies under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). These are aimed at; increasing production, productivity and quality of the produce to meet the growing demand in domestic as well as export market. Major among them are: area expansion (establishment of new garden), production and distribution of quality seeds, Integrated Pest and

Disease Management / Integrated Nutrient Management, organic farming, mechanization, Integrated Post-harvest Management, Human Resource Development etc. These programmes are mainly implemented in states through respective State Horticulture Missions.

In order to supplement these programmes, the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development undertakes nucleus seed production programme of high yielding and export oriented varieties of chillies which is utilized for further multiplication and distribution to the farmers.

The Directorate also provides support for infrastructure development for seed production and storage in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes. It has taken several steps to popularize the organic production technologies available for chillies. As a part of post harvest quality improvement programme, Spices Board is implementing the post harvest improvement programmes for chilli in major chilli growing states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh.