

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1453

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016

Production of Fruits and Vegetables

Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Horticultural Report 2015 indicates that India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world after China;
- (b) if so, the reasons behind India's share being merely at 0.17% in fruits and 0.51% in vegetables in the world trade despite holding the second position in their production;
- (c) the year-wise statistics and the details of fruits and vegetables exports from India during the last decade;
- (d) the details of the production of fruits and vegetables in various States of the country including Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the country's production and the export of fruits and vegetables?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Yes Madam.

(b): "Exports of Horticultural commodities like fruits and vegetables depend on various factors such as availability/non-availability of surplus over domestic requirements, international and domestic demand and supply situation, quality concerns, sanitary & phytosanitary requirements etc. In case of fruits and vegetables, the reasons for low exports are high domestic consumption, fragmented supply chain, lack of appropriate infrastructure, high cost of logistics, difficulties in meeting global standards, high international transportation costs, etc."

(c): The year wise statistics and details of fruits and vegetables exports from India during last decade is at Annexure - I.

(d): The details of the production of fruits and vegetables in various states of the country including Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the current year is at Table 1 and 2 of Annexure-II.

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(e): Several steps, as detailed below, have been taken up by the Government to increase the Country's production and export of "Fruits and Vegetables".

â€ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during XII Plan w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering all the horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables. The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruit and vegetable crops through coverage of area with improved cultivators, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, including insitu generation of organic inputs. Capacity building of farmers and technicians is also being provided for adopting improved technologies.

â€ In order to boost exports, a new scheme, has been launched recently namely "Merchandize Exports from India (MEIS)" under Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, wherein the exporters/farmers are incentivized for export of their goods/products including fruits and vegetables to specified markets.