

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6191

ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017

Banana Production

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

- (a) whether the country holds number one position in the world in the area of banana production and stands at number three in acreages;
- (b) if so, the number of States which produce banana along with their production during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to establish a Banana Research Centre in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the expenditure that is likely to be involved along with the time by which the centre is likely to be functioning; and
- (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to protect the banana plantation from various diseases?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

श्री. श्री. अशोक शंकरराव; श्री. डॉ. सुनील बलिराम; श्री. किरतिकार श्री. गजानन चंद्रकांत; श्री. महतो श्री. विद्युत बारन; श्री. राधाकृष्णन श्री. टी.; श्री. एस. आर. श्री. विजय कुमार ( श्री. पारशोत्तम रुपाला)

(a): As per the information available on Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) website, India leads the world in banana production and also stands at number one position in area under banana crop.

(b): The State-wise production data of banana during the last three years & the current year is provided at Annexure-I.

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(c): ICAR has already established National Research Centre for Banana at Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu on 21st August 1993 and there are also more than 12 centers working on banana under National Agriculture Research and Education System (NARES) in coordination with All India Coordinated Research Programme for fruits (AICRP-Fruit). Major banana growing States are involved in the All India Coordinated Research Programme for fruits.

(d): Rupees 35 crores has been allocated by the NITI AYOGE for the next three years for the ICAR- National Research Center for Banana (NRCB).

(e): Several measure have been taken by the Government to protect the Banana plantation from various diseases, some of which are as under:

ICAR- National Research Center for Banana (NRCB) is involved in certifying Tissue Culture (TC) banana, free from viruses. Till date 120 million TC banana plants were certified by the center and services were provided to all the Tissue Culture companies in India.

NRCB has produced virus free hill banana and supplied to hill banana growers in Tamil Nadu, and they have rejuvenated the famous Virupakshi banana from the attack of banana bunchy top virus.

Integrated management solutions have been developed for 'leaf spot and wilt' diseases of banana which are the major hurdle in the production.

Effective disease management strategies were developed for post-harvest diseases, by the centre and which are being followed by the exporters and for domestic markets.

MIDH provides assistance for promotion of Tissue Culture raised Banana plants, setting up of tissue culture units and promotes adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to minimize impact of various diseases.

