

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
INDO - ISRAEL AGRICULTURAL ACTION PLAN
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is satisfied with the progress of the Indo-Israel Agricultural Action Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to expand the scope of this Action Plan by involving other States including Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): An Indo-Israel work plan was signed in 2006 wherein a number of areas for cooperation were identified. These included energy efficient green houses, recycling of waste water for irrigation, post-harvest management for horticulture and dairy products, dairy development through genetic improvement, extension services, training and visiting facilities in respective countries.

As part of this work plan, an Indo – Israel Agriculture Action Plan was initiated during 2008 – 2010 which was subsequently extended for implementation till 2015. Under this Action Plan Centres of Excellence (CoE) for fruits, vegetables and flowers have been sanctioned with the technical support of Israeli experts in the states of Haryana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, Bihar, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The Centres of Excellence are for demonstration of latest technologies for increasing the production and productivity of horticulture crops in the country.

The details of these CoEs under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture are annexed.

(c) to (e): No such proposal is under consideration. At present, Centre of Excellence for Horticulture has been included under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and assistance to the extent of Rs. 10.00 crore/centre i. e. 100% of cost to public sector. This can be established through bi-lateral cooperation also.