

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1471**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11/02/2020

**BETEL LEAF RESEARCH CENTRE**

1471. MS. S. JOTHIMANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department of Agricultural Research and Education under the Ministry will consider constructing a Betel Leaf Research Centre in Pugalur located in Aravakurichi in Karur Parliamentary Constituency;
- (b) whether the Government will consider establishing a flower fragrance industrial park to promote flower cultivation at Manapparai located in Karur district of Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to improve the growth of the horticulture and floriculture sectors across the country; and
- (d) the details of the above programmes implemented in Tamil Nadu?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) There is no such proposal under consideration to establish a Betel Leaf Research Centre in Pugalur located in Aravakurichi in Karur Parliamentary Constituency by Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) under the Ministry.
- (b) There is no such proposal under consideration to establish a flower fragrance industrial park at Manapparai located in Karur district of Tamil Nadu, since this subject matter is not under the purview of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

(c)

- ICAR has established 23 Horticultural Institutes/Directorates/National Research Centres (NRCs) and 12 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) across the country to carry out research in Horticulture and Floriculture sector.
- The details of major activities taken by DARE towards growth of horticulture and floriculture during 2014-19 is at **Annexure-I(A)**.
- Further, DARE is implementing a Scheme-Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, flowers and other areas.
- MIDH has five major schemes which are as follows:
  - National Horticulture Mission (NHM)
  - National Horticulture Board (NHB)
  - Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH)
  - Coconut Development Board (CDB)
  - Central Institute of Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland
- ICAR-Directorate of Floricultural Research (DFR), Pune and ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Floriculture (AICRP on Floriculture) with its 22 coordinating centres have been established to conduct research in floriculture to address the crop specific problems. ICAR-AICRP has a Centre at TNAU, Coimbatore.
- Major activities taken by ICAR towards improving growth of the Floriculture sector across the country are at **Annexure-I (B)**.

(d) ICAR-AICRP on Floriculture has a Coordinated Centre at TNAU-Coimbatore which caters to the technological needs of the flower growers in and around Coimbatore. This includes technology generation, dissemination and also transfer of technologies through trainings, participation in Kisan Mela, Horticulture Shows.

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**A. – Research in Horticulture**

- During the period 2014-19, the following regional research stations have been established for research work on mango, guava, flowers, citrus and temperate fruits/orchids:
  - ICAR – CISH-RRS, Malda (West Bengal): for subtropical fruits
  - ICAR – DFR –RRS, Kadiyam (Andhra Pradesh)- for ornamental flowers
  - ICAR – CCRI-RRS, Vishwanath Chariyali (Assam)- for citrus
  - ICAR-CITH-RRS, Dirang (Arunachal Pradesh) – for temperate fruits.
  
- During the period 2014-19, following milestones have been achieved:
  - 15 new laboratories have been established in different institutes under Horticultural Science Division of ICAR to take up research work at national level.
  - More than 150 varieties of horticultural crops have been notified for the benefit of farmers.
  - A total of 22908 new germplasm/accessions on different horticultural crops have been added.
  - A total of 530 improved production technologies developed on different horticultural crops.
  - A total of 15734 MT of breeders/truthfully labelled seeds (TL) produced on different horticultural crops for the benefit of farmers.
  - A total of 127 farmers' fairs have been organized across the country where a number of technologies were showcased and demonstrated.

**B. – Research in Floriculture**

- Technologies and varieties developed through ICAR-Directorate of Floriculture (ICAR-DFR) and ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Floriculture (ICAR-AICRP) are disseminated to the stakeholders from time to time.
- The technological support (varieties and technologies) promotes floricultural activities in the country in terms of area expansion, increasing the net returns from floriculture, besides sustaining the existing floriculture.
- ICAR has also established Division of Ornamental Crops with the establishment of Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (IIHR) at Bengaluru. The division focusses on development of novel varieties of ornamental crops along with appropriate production technology. Division also focusses research work on protected cultivation with an aim to develop quality planting material and with emphasis on export.
- Further, IIHR has established collaboration with Department of Horticulture, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu States for efficient catering of planting material of ornamental crops and for knowledge sharing.

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