

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.257
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24/03/2023

CULTIVATION OF SAFFRON IN ANDHRA PRADESH

*257 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that saffron is cultivated in Madanapalle, Annamayya district of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a graduate in Agriculture could produce 200 grams of pure first grade saffron;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) in what manner the Ministry will help and encourage such young farmers to produce saffron in Andhra Pradesh and export the same?

ANSWER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.257 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 24.03.2023 REGARDING CULTIVATION OF SAFFRON IN ANDHRA PRADESH.

(a) to (c): The ideal climatic conditions for commercial cultivation of saffron is temperate climate with loose and well drained soils. Further, Soil pH value of 6.3 to 8.3 and optimum temperature range of 23–27 °C in summer and winter temperatures not less than -15 to -20 °C are required for production of quality saffron. The accumulation of main components of quality saffron i.e crocin, safranal and length of stigma are dependent on these ideal conditions which are available for commercial cultivation of saffron in Pampore, Pulwama, Budgam and Srinagar region of Kashmir. The saffron or any other crop can be grown on experimental basis under controlled conditions.

As per the information received from the State Government, an Agriculture Post Graduate student in Soil and Water Conservation of Madanapalle, Annamayya District, Andhra Pradesh, as a startup, has cultivated Saffron under controlled climatic conditions (with the help of humidifiers in semi hydroponics conditions) in a room of her own house.

(d): Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is already supporting polyhouse structure/ controlled atmosphere structure under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) which can be utilized for any crop including saffron with the proven technology. The assistance is available upto 50% of the eligible cost for various types of protected structures. The details of assistance is given at **Annexure-I**.

ANNEXURE-I

**COST NORMS AND PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE UNDER MISSION FOR
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE (MIDH)**

Item	Cost Norms	Pattern of Assistance
PLANTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT		
Protected cultivation		
1. Green House structure		
(a) Fan & Pad system	Rs. 1650/Sq.m (up to area 500 Sq. m) Rs. 1465/Sq. m (>500 Sq.m up to 1008 Sqm) Rs. 1420/Sq. m (>1008 Sq. m up to 2080 Sq.m) Rs. 1400/Sq. m (>2080 Sq. m upto 4000 Sq.m) Above rates will be 15% higher for hilly areas.	50% of cost for a maximum area of 4000 sq. m per beneficiary.
(b) Naturally ventilated system		
i) Tubular structure	Rs.1060/Sq.m (up to area 500 Sq. m) Rs. 935/Sq.m (>500 Sq. m up to 1008 Sq. m) Rs. 890/Sq.m (>1008 Sq.m up to 2080 Sq. m) Rs. 844/Sq.m (>2080 Sq. m up to 4000 Sq.m) Above rate will be 15% higher for hilly areas.	50% of cost limited 4000 sq. m per beneficiary.
ii) Wooden structure	Rs.540/Sq.m for plain areas and Rs. 621/Sq.m for hilly areas	50% of the cost limited to 20 units per beneficiary (each unit not to exceed 200 Sq.m).
iii) Bamboo structure	Rs.450/Sq.m for plain areas and Rs. 518/Sq.m for hilly areas	50% of the cost limited to 20 units per beneficiary (each unit should not exceed 200 Sq.m)

2. Shade Net House		
(a) Tubular structure	Rs.710/Sq.m for plain areas and Rs. 816/Sq.m for hilly areas	50% of cost limited to 4000 Sq. m. per beneficiary.
(b) Wooden structure	Rs.492/Sq.m for plain areas and Rs. 566/Sq.m for hilly areas	50% of cost limited to 20 units per beneficiary (each unit not to exceed 200 Sq.m).
(c) Bamboo structure	Rs.360/Sq.m for plain areas and Rs.414/Sq.m for hilly areas	50% of cost limited to 20 units per beneficiary (each unit not to exceed 200 sq. m).
