

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2733
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/03/2023

HORTICULTURE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

2733. SHRI RAMBHAI HARJIBHAI MOKARIYA:

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

- (a) the objectives of Horticulture Cluster Development Programme, the number of farmers included in the programme along with the total number of clusters formed under this programme, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government plans to form new farmer producer organizations in the country, if so, whether Government would provide financial assistance to these organizations; and
- (c) if so, whether efforts are being made to form new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Gujarat also, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a): The main objectives of the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (HCDP) are to:
- i. Address the concerns of the horticulture value chain, from pre-production, production, post-harvest management and value addition to logistics, marketing and branding, in an integrated manner for accelerating competitiveness in the domestic and export market.
 - ii. Reduce harvest and post-harvest losses by developing/expanding/upgrading the infrastructure for post-harvest handling of produce, value addition and market linkages.
 - iii. Facilitate the introduction of innovative technologies and practices to help enhance the global competitiveness of focus cluster crops.
 - iv. Facilitate in dovetailing of resources, including convergence of various government schemes in order to entrench stakeholders in the global value chains.
 - v. Build the capacity of stakeholders and enhance farmers' income through cluster specific interventions, including brand promotion.

Initially 12 clusters have been selected on pilot basis for the launch of HCDP. Details of these 12 clusters are at **Annexure**. Approximately 3 lakh farmers are likely to be benefitted under the pilot phase implementation of Programme.

(b) & (c): The Government of India has launched the Central Sector Scheme “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)” in the year 2020 with a clear strategy to form and promote FPOs in the country to facilitate and support small and marginal farmers. Under the said scheme, FPOs being provided financial assistance upto Rs 18.00 lakh per FPO for a period of 03 years. In addition to this, provision has been made for matching equity grant upto Rs. 2,000 per farmer member of FPO with a limit of Rs. 15.00 lakh per FPO and a credit guarantee facility upto Rs. 2.00 crore of project loan per FPO from eligible lending institution to ensure institutional credit accessibility to FPOs.

As per available information, 302 FPOs are formed by different Implementing Agencies in Gujarat. The details are as under:

Implementing Agencies	FPOs registered
GAICL	100
NABARD	74
NAFED	18
NCDC	34
NDDDB	2
SFAC	73
TRIFED	1
Grand Total	302

Annexure

Details of identified 12 clusters under Horticulture Cluster Development Programme

S. No.	Crop	Identified Clusters	State
1.	Apple	1. Shopian 2. Kinnaur	Jammu & Kashmir Himachal Pradesh
2.	Mango	1. Lucknow 2. Kutch 3. Mehbubnagar	Uttar Pradesh Gujarat Telangana
3.	Banana	1. Anantpur 2. Theni	Andhra Pradesh Tamil Nadu
4.	Grapes	1. Nasik	Maharashtra
5.	Pineapple	1. Siphahijala	Tripura
6.	Pomegranate	1. Solapur 2. Chitradurga	Maharashtra Karnataka
7.	Turmeric	1. West Jaintia Hills	Meghalaya
