

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 243
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MARCH, 2018

DEVELOPMENT OF FLORICULTURE

*243. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

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

- (a) whether in the scenario of climate change, floriculture is a potential sector which may help rejuvenate the rural economy in most of the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has given logistic support to the farmers for development of floriculture to minimise the effects of climate change, use of green-house technology and practice of hi-tech horticulture to improve the rural economy of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण ½â"ãè

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 243 DUE FOR REPLY ON 13TH MARCH, 2018.

(a): Yes, floriculture has an immense potential for development in spite of climatic changes. Adoption of improved floriculture practices under protected conditions would help to rejuvenate rural economy in most of the States.

(b): Floriculture is an important component of Horticulture sector in rejuvenating rural economy of the country. Adoption of protected cultivation practices help farmers to modify the time of planting, cultural practices and other calendar of operations to mitigate the adverse effect of climate change.

The implication of climate change is more pronounced in terms of elevated temperature, increased carbon dioxide concentration and extreme weather events. Elevated carbon dioxide improves the performance positively by the enhanced rates of photosynthesis and biomass production in floriculture crops like rose, liliium, carnation, chrysanthemum, anthurium, gerbera, alstroemeria, etc. under protected conditions. As the climate is already controlled under protected cultivation the effect of climate change would not be pronounced. However flower crops grown under open field conditions to some extent get affected due to climate change leading to poor flowering, improper floral development, colour reduction and short blooming period. At the same time, there are ornamental crops like tuberose, marigold, China aster which are not severely affected by marginal increase in temperature.

Floriculture, as an intensive farming under protected conditions, is often not affected by the outside temperatures. With increasing climatic vagaries, flower crops grown under protected conditions prove to be one of the safest cultivations to overcome the climate change effects. Therefore, the floriculture sector has the potential for the improvement of rural economy and help rejuvenate rural economy in most of the states.

Further, awareness and educational programme for growers, resource conservation, and modification of present cultural practices and greater use of green-house technology are some of the solutions to minimize the adverse effect of climate change.

(c): Yes, Government has extended support to the farmers for the development of floriculture including logistic support, use of green-house technology and to practice hi-tech floriculture to improve the rural economy.

(d): Government's support is extended through Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) etc. The activities include area expansion, creation of water resources, protected cultivation (green house structure, shade net house, plastic tunnels, anti hail nets, plastic mulching etc.), promotion of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) / Integrated Pest Management (IPM), mechanization, micro-irrigation, human resource development activities. Government also supports to build pre cooling units, cold storage, technology induction and modernisation of cold-chain, and purchase of refrigerated transport vehicle. The export activities of floriculture crops get promoted through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).
