

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 384**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023

**EXPANSION OF HORTICULTURE VALUE CHAIN**

\*384. SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan for expansion of Horticulture Value Chain across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of fresh steps taken by the Government to strengthen the horticulture sector especially the cultivation of vegetables and flowers for increasing the income of farmers?

**ANSWER**

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

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 384 FOR 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023 REGARDING EXPANSION OF HORTICULTURE VALUE CHAIN.**

(a) & (b): For covering all aspects of Horticulture Value Chain across the country, Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme throughout the country as a result of which horticulture production in the country has been increased from 277.35 million MT in 2013-14 to 342.32 million MT in 2021-22 (3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced estimates) and area in the country has been increased from 24.20 million ha in 2013-14 to 28.07 million ha in 2021-22 (3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced estimates).

For further strengthening of horticulture value chain across the country, Government has launched Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (HCDP) with the aim to enable holistic growth and development of identified horticulture clusters to make them globally competitive and entrench them into national and global value chains. HCDP has been designed to leverage the geographical specialization of horticulture clusters and promote integrated and market led development of pre-production, production, post-harvest, logistics, branding and marketing activities. Under HCDP, initially 12 clusters have been selected on pilot basis. Details of these 12 clusters are at **Annexure**.

(c): Under MIDH, to strengthen the horticulture sector, financial assistance is provided for following major interventions/activities:

- Setting up of nurseries, tissue culture units for production of quality seed and planting material.
- Area expansion i.e. establishment of new orchards and gardens for fruits, vegetables, flowers and spices.
- Rejuvenation of unproductive, old, and senile orchards.
- Protected cultivation, i.e. poly-house, green-house, etc, to improve the productivity & grow off season high value vegetables and flowers.
- Horticulture Mechanization.
- Creation of Post-Harvest infrastructure, viz., pack house, pre-cooling unit, cold room, cold storage, ripening chamber, marketing infrastructure etc.
- Creation of Market Infrastructure.
- Establishment of crop specific Centres of Excellence under Bi-lateral cooperation and through Indian Research Institutes.
- Training of farmers.

The above mentioned interventions and steps taken for strengthening of value chain has resulted in the following achievements of MIDH scheme during 2014-15 to 2022-23:

- **Nurseries:** - 807 nurseries have been established for production of quality planting material.
- **Area Expansion:** An additional area of 12.16 Lakh ha under horticulture crops has been covered.
- **Rejuvenation:** An area of 1.35 Lakh ha. has been covered under rejuvenation of old and senile orchards.
- **Protected Cultivation:** An area of 2.64 Lakh ha has been covered under protected cultivation.
- **Horticulture Mechanization:** 2.49 Lakh horticulture mechanization equipments have been distributed.
- **Post-Harvest Management Infrastructures:** 103634 units including pack houses, cold storage units, refrigerated vans, primary/ mobile processing units, ripening chambers, pre cooling units etc. have been established.
- **Cold storages:** 1235 Cold Storages with 55.4 Lakh Tonne capacity created.
- **Market Infrastructures:** 12904 market infrastructures have been set up.
- **Centres of Excellence:** 49 Crop specific Centres of Excellence have been established under Indo-Israel Cooperation, Indo-Dutch Cooperation and through Research Institutes.
- **Training of Farmers:** 8.71 lakh farmers have been trained for various horticulture activities.

Apart from HCDP, following major new initiatives have also been taken by the Government to strengthen the horticulture sector:

**Clean Plant Programme :** Clean Plant Programme (CPP) has been announced as a Central Sector Project during budget speech 2023-24. The project cost is around Rs. 2200 Cr with 50% funding from ADB over a period of 7 years.

Under the project National Horticulture Board (NHB) will anchor the establishment of Clean Plant Centres in the country in collaboration with Asian Development Bank (ADB) with the aim to ensure access to disease free horticulture planting material for global competitiveness of the Indian horticulture sector.

**Establishment of Post Entry Quarantine (PEQ) Facilities :** For imported high value horticulture planting material, establishment of PEQ facilities have been approved at following 4 different locations:

1. Central Institute of Arid Horticulture (CIAH), Bikaner, Rajasthan
2. Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh

3. Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Mukteswar, Uttarakhand
4. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), CITH, Srinagar, J&K

Further, MIDH scheme encourages aggregation of farmers into farmer's groups like FIGs/FPOs/FPCs to bring economy of scale and scope, enhance horticulture production, augment farmer's income, strengthen nutritional security, improve productivity by way of quality germ-plasm, planting material and water use efficiency through micro irrigation, skill development and employment generation opportunities for farmers in horticulture sector. Capacity buildings of farmers and technicians is also supported for adopting improved technologies through existing institutions like State Agriculture Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Institutes with Department of Horticulture in States

Apart from the above, National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing Central Sector scheme as a sub-scheme of MIDH. The schemes of NHB includes "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops" including vegetable & flowers and "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for construction/ expansion/ modernization of Cold Storages/Storages of Horticulture Products" which in turn increase the income of farmers.

The above mentioned interventions and steps taken for strengthening of value chain has resulted in the following achievements of NHB scheme during 2014-15 to 2022-23:

- **Area Expansion:** An additional area of approx. 17783 ha under horticulture crops have been covered under protected and open field cultivation.
- **Primary Processing Units:** 631 units for primary processing of horticulture produce have been established.
- **Post-Harvest Management Infrastructures:** 451 units including pack houses, refrigerated vans, ripening chambers, pre cooling units etc. have been established.
- **Cold storages:** 340 Cold Storages with 20.10 Lakh Tonne capacity created.

Further, to strengthen agriculture infrastructure in the country, Government has launched Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF) of Rs. 1.00 lakh crore. Under AIF, there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs. 2.00 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post-harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages.

**Details of identified 12 clusters under Horticulture Cluster Development Programme**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Crop</b>	<b>Identified Clusters</b>	<b>State</b>
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

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