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

(a) the details of the production of mangoes in the States of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether there is a decline in mango production in these States due to Covid-19 pandemic;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering any proposal to provide assistance to the affected farmers;

(d) whether the Government has failed to boost mango production even though India is the largest producer of Mangoes in the world, if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(e) whether the Government is considering to transform and modernize the agriculture sector which includes mango cultivation in various mango producing States of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government to boost the production and export of mangoes and to prevent crop loss from pests?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

( SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): The production of Mango in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years and current year are at Annexure.
Government of Maharashtra has not reported any decline in production due to Covid-19 pandemic. They have reported that Nisarg Cyclone on 3RD JUNE, 2020 had caused loss to agriculture sector mainly Mango plantation in Konkan region. An area of 7309 hectare in Mango cultivation had been affected resulting in lower production in the State.

Government of Tamil Nadu has reported that during the initial period of Covid-19 pandemic, cultivators had issues in managing the peak harvest season, mobilizing and marketing their produce.

The farmers are provided with assistance for area expansion of horticultural crops, irrigation facilities like micro irrigation, pack houses, pre-cooling units, cold storage units through various schemes of Government of India and State Governments.

Mango production in India has not declined but increased from 209.12 Lakh Tonne in 2017-18 to 211.24 Lakh Tonne in 2020-21 (First Advance Estimates) with Compound Annual Growth Rate of 0.25%. This is due to various steps taken by Government of India like Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) Scheme and Cluster Development Programme of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

ICAR institutions have also developed and demonstrated mango rejuvenation and centre opening technologies to improve production across the country. ICAR has reported that they are also vigilant on occurrence of new pests and pathogens.

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits (including mangoes), vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew and cocoa. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH scheme.

Under MIDH, for high density plantation of mango, assistance is provided @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 1.50 Lakh/Hectare for meeting the expenditure on planting material, cost of drip system, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM), canopy management etc. under integrated package with drip irrigation and without integration, assistance is @ 40% of the maximum cost of Rs. 1.00 Lakh/Hectare for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of INM/IPM. In case of North East and Himalayan States, Tribal Sub Plans (TSP) areas, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance is @50% of cost.

Under MIDH, credit linked assistance is provided for establishment of Cold Storage, Ripening Chambers and Reefer transport vehicles for perishable horticulture crops including Mango. Assistance is also extended for setting up of market infrastructures, setting up static/mobile vending cart/ platform with cool chamber for
setting up functional infrastructures for collection, sorting /grading, packing etc. for preventing the losses and facilitating better marketing of the horticulture produce.

The APEDA, Ministry of Commerce & Industry has reported that it has taken several steps like developing Hortinet Traceability System and Cluster Development Programme in major producing States under Agri Export Policy, conducting Outreach Programmes, organizing Buyer-Seller meet, facilitating participation of exporters in International Trade Fairs, organizing National events like Organic World Congress, Biofach India etc. to modernize and transform horticulture exports. APEDA has also provided financial assistance to Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Board (MSAMB) to set up Pack House facilities which are used by exporters as common facilities to help Mango producers of the region. APEDA has also assisted in development of Cargo Perishable Centers at various airports in the country apart from setting up walk-in type cold stores at airports. Common facilities like pack houses, Vapour Heat Treatment facilities and Irradiation facilities have been set up in various States with the financial assistance from APEDA.

ICAR institutes are continuously working on new and modern technologies to transform Mango cultivation. The ICAR has developed and demonstrated minimal pesticide spraying schedule to farmers for optimum production. Institutes are also working on different aspects of Mango including Crop Improvement, Crop Production, Crop Protection, Post-Harvest Management and Value Addition using modern technology. ICAR-Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow is working on export protocol of Mango for long distance transport.
Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4441 on "Production of Mangoes" due for answer on 23.3.2021

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<th>Production of Mango in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu</th>
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<td>Production in '000 Tonne</td>
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