

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2717
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14th DECEMBER, 2021

CULTIVATION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

2717. SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any plan to impart knowledge of agriculture technology to the farmers/entrepreneurs/stakeholders to grow fruits and vegetables in a profitable manner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has made any plan for horticulture around cities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has made any plan for nursery/high tech horticulture in metropolitan cities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme i.e. 'Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms' popularly known as ATMA scheme to make available latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas to farmers through different extension activities viz. Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and organizing Farm Schools etc.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), implemented for the holistic development of horticulture in the country, assistance is provided for awareness programmes, farmers training, exposure visit, etc. There is a provision for training on latest technologies on production and post-harvest management to women and youth.

National Horticulture Board (NHB), a Central Sector Scheme of MIDH also provides financial assistance to organize workshop and training programme for horticulture growers including fruits and vegetables.

Apart from the above, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also taking various steps to promote agriculture/horticulture in the country and to impart knowledge of agriculture technology to the farmers/entrepreneurs/stakeholders to grow fruits and vegetables in a profitable manner. Some of the steps are as under:

- Organizing Scientist – Farmer interface meetings, farmer’s mela, exhibitions, advisory services etc
- Distributing extension pamphlets in English, Hindi and other local languages, extension bulletins, Farmers advisory services, planting material availability, guide on nutritional disorders etc.
- The farmers are exposed to latest technologies through various training programmes, exhibitions, melas and exposure visits of farmers.
- Distribution of planting material of the latest varieties by ICAR Institutes/Directorates/NRCs to the farmers.

(c) & (d) MIDH is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by the Government through States and States implement the scheme as per their requirements and priorities including horticulture activities around the cities.

(e) & (f) MIDH scheme is being implemented in all States/UTs across the country and different States/UTs make their action plan to avail benefit under different components depending upon their requirement/ demand/priorities including for areas in and around important cities in the State. Nursery/high tech horticulture is promoted under the scheme through following interventions:

- **Plantation Infrastructure Development:** Setting up of nurseries, tissue culture units for production of quality seed and planting material.
- **Protected cultivation:** Creation of structures like poly-house, green-house, shade net house, walk in tunnels (including micro irrigation facilities) etc.
- **Promotion of INM/IPM:** Creation of INM/IPM structures like bio-control lab, plant health clinic, disease forecasting units etc.
- **Horticulture Mechanization:** Promotion of horticulture mechanization through supply of Power tillers, Tractors, Plant protection equipments etc.
- **Post Harvest Management (PHM) infrastructure:** Creation of Cold storage/C.A. storage, Ripening chamber, Reefer vehicles etc.
