

Productivity of mangoes in the country

341. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that mango productivity per hectare in India is very low in comparison to other countries like Bangladesh, Brazil and Pakistan, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to help mango growers in increasing yields by providing new technologies such as Ultra High Density Mango Plantation (UHDMP)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA):

(a) The mango productivity in India is low in comparison to Bangladesh, Brazil and Pakistan. The major reasons for low productivity are as under:

- (i) Pre-dominance of old/senile/unproductive orchards, seedling orchards,
- (ii) Predominance of irregular bearing varieties,
- (iii) Low adoption of canopy management and crop health management practices.
- (iv) Inclement weather during flowering and hail storms often during fruiting.

(b) The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare for the holistic development of Horticulture. The mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including mango through new technologies like micro irrigation, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Nutrient Management, *in situ* production of organic inputs and establishment of high density plantation are the major components of the Mission. Financial assistance @ 40% cost upto maximum ₹ 1.50 lakhs/ha is provided for establishment of new orchards. There are options for adoption of all range of planting system from ultra high to low.

Availability of green fodder for animals

†342. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of quality green fodder for animals in the country is very low and it is adversely affecting the health of animals, if so, the details thereof along with the demand and supply of the above;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.