

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2886
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

**STEPS TO ENHANCE PRODUCTION AND STRENGTHEN EXPORT OF
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE**

2886. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SINDHU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken to enhance the production and strengthen the export potential of agricultural produce from Punjab, especially high-value crops and organic products;
- (b) the details of initiatives to strengthen Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Punjab to ensure better bargaining power and access to markets for farmers; and
- (c) the details of allocations made towards this?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): In order to enhance the production and strengthening the export potential of agricultural produce including high-value crops and organic products, Government of India is implementing various schemes in all States including Punjab as listed below:

- Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme for holistic development of horticulture sector in the country, wherein financial assistance is provided for activities such as Production of Planting Material, Vegetable Seed Production, Cultivation of high yielding varieties of Fruits & Vegetables, Rejuvenation of Senile Orchards, Protected Cultivation, Creation of Water Resources, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Horticulture Mechanization, Creation of Post Harvest Management (PHM) and Marketing Infrastructure in the country.
- Government is implementing National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) programme in all States/UTs with the objective to increase foodgrain production through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under NFSNM, assistance is given for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection

measures, nutrient management/soil ameliorants, processing & post-harvest equipment, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc.

- Government is promoting organic farming through dedicated schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCDNER) in North Eastern Region. Under these schemes, farmers are primarily encouraged to adopt organic cultivation using organic inputs and the scheme provides end to end support to the farmers, i.e. from production to marketing of organic produce is built-in in the scheme.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) an export promotion body was established by Government of India under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to undertake the development and promotion of export of various products including Fruits, Vegetables and their products.

(b): Government is promoting Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through a dedicated Central Sector Scheme "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)" wherein FPOs are developed by bringing together small farmers who are provided end-to-end support in input, technical services, aggregation, branding & marketing to leverage economies of scale and better market access and returns for members.

Under the scheme, efforts are being made for integration of FPOs with platforms like e-NAM (National Agricultural Market), ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce) and GeM (Government e-Marketplace) to connect them directly with diverse buyers, including wholesalers, retailers, processors, exporters, and government agencies. In Punjab 77 FPOs of 10,000 FPOs Scheme have been Onboarded on ONDC with wide range of Agricultural Produce. Also 21 FPOs including FPO of 10,000 FPOs Scheme and FPOs of other scheme, onboarded on e-NAM.

(c): Under 10,000 FPO scheme, a total of 165 FPOs have been allocated in Punjab covering all the districts, out of which 138 FPOs have been registered as of now.
