

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2896
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

DECLINE IN HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION

2896. SHRI YERRAM VENKATA SUBBA REDDY:

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

- (a) the details of horticulture crops production in 2023-24, State-wise;
- (b) whether horticulture crop production in 2023-24 will be less than 355.50 million tons, recorded in 2022-23 in spite of increase in crop area;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the reasons behind considerable decrease in production of vegetables from 213 million tons in 2022-23 to about 209 million tons in 2023-24;
- (e) the reasons for decline in onion production from 317 million tons in 2021-22 to 302 million tons in 2022-23 to 255 million tons in 2023-24 as per advance estimates; and
- (f) the efforts being made to push horticulture production in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The State-wise area and production of horticulture crops for the year 2023-24 as per the 3rd Advance Estimates, are given at **Annexure**.

(b) & (c): As per the 3rd Advance Estimates for the year 2023-24, total gross crop area under horticulture crops is estimated to be at 289.8 Lakh Hectares compared to the total gross crop area of 284.4 Lakh Hectares in 2022-23. However, the total horticulture production in the country has marginally decreased during the period, from 3554.8 Lakh Tonne in 2022-23 to 3531.9 Lakh Tonne in 2023-24 (3rd Advance Estimates), mainly due to the decline in production reported under major vegetable crops like onion and potato.

(d): During the year 2022-23, the vegetable production in the country was its highest ever level at 2125.5 Lakh Tonnes mainly due to a bumper production of potato (601.4 Lakh Tonne) and higher than normal level of production of onion (302.1 Lakh Tonne). The production of other major vegetables in 2022-23 were also higher compared to the previous year. However, as per the 3rd Advance Estimates for the year 2023-24, the total vegetable production was estimated to be at 2058.0 Lakh Tonne.

(e): As per the 3rd Advance Estimates for the year 2023-24, the onion production in the Country is estimated to be 242.4 Lakh tonne. The decline in production in the year 2023-24 was due to the drought situation prevailing in major onion producing districts of Maharashtra and Karnataka and incidents of pests and diseases reported in Madhya Pradesh.

Taking into account the significant gap in onion production in 2023-24, an above normal monsoon and prevailing high prices, DA&FW pursued with Kharif onion producing States to increase the area coverage during the 2024-25 season. States were also allowed to take up area expansion of Kharif onion under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) by amending the Annual Action Plan (AAP). The proactive measures and regular monitoring undertaken by DA&FW resulted in a total Kharif onion area coverage of 3.82 Lakh Hectare in the year 2024-25 compared to the total Kharif onion area of 2.85 Lakh Hectare achieved in the previous year

(f): At present, India is the second largest producer of vegetables and fruits in the world. Country ranks first in the production of a number of crops like Banana, Lime & Lemon, Papaya and Okra.

The horticulture production in the country has been steadily increasing over the years due to the proactive policies and initiatives of the Government of India and the State Governments and the improved crop production technologies and management practices. For increasing area, production and creation of post-harvest infrastructure, the Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the States/UTs since 2014-15. Under MIDH, support for production of quality planting material, area expansion of fruits, vegetables, spices and plantation crops, protected cultivation and creation of post-harvest management infrastructures, training and capacity building of farmers, etc. are provided.

The project proposals of State Governments for horticulture development are also supported under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

State-wise Area and Production of Horticulture crops in the country during 2023-24 (3rd Advance Estimates)

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	Area ('000 Ha)	Production ('000 MT)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1641	27210
2	Arunachal Pradesh	43	156
3	Assam	652	6837
4	Bihar	1307	21775
5	Chhattisgarh	747	9024
6	Gujarat	2175	25375
7	Haryana	412	6610
8	Himachal Pradesh	342	2588
9	Jammu & Kashmir	437	4644
10	Jharkhand	448	5808
11	Karnataka	2877	20620
12	Kerala	1590	10596
13	Madhya Pradesh	2572	38158
14	Maharashtra	2142	28803
15	Manipur	84	834
16	Meghalaya	165	1096
17	Mizoram	160	708
18	Nagaland	93	902
19	Odisha	1602	14574
20	Punjab	497	9562
21	Rajasthan	1770	4589
22	Sikkim	87	307
23	Tamil Nadu	1593	21828
24	Telangana	395	3949
25	Tripura	142	1842
26	Uttar Pradesh	2592	48016
27	Uttarakhand	166	931
28	West Bengal	2074	34873
29	Others	180	975
All India		28984	353188
