

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Inter-Ministerial task force on agro marketing

1042. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1054, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th July, 2002 and state the status of implementation of the report of Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Agro Marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation had convened a National Conference under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister with Ministers dealing with the subject of Agricultural Marketing of all States/ Union Territories Administrations and the concerned Central Government Departments at New Delhi on 27.9.2002 to discuss the implementation of the reforms measures suggested by the inter-Ministerial Task Force. There was a consensus among all the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations on the need to introduce reforms in the agricultural marketing sector.

With a view to evolve an action programme for the implementation of the reform measures, a Standing Committee of State Ministers and representatives of concerned Central Government Departments/Agencies has been set up on 13.11.2002 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture.

Fruits and vegetable production

1043. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a substantial increase in the production of fruits and vegetables in the country;

(b) if so, in what ways the fruits and vegetables produced in the country are utilised.

(c) whether any possibility has been explored by Government to increase the export of fruits and vegetables; and

(d) if so, the performance in that regard during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The production of fruits increased from 28.63 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 45.37 million tonnes in 2000-2001 and production of vegetables increased from 58.53 million tonnes to 93.92 million tonnes during the same period.

(b) The fruits and vegetables produced in the country are utilised for local consumption, exports and processing.

(c) For encouraging export of fruits and vegetables, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is providing financial assistance to individuals/exporters for various activities like setting up Infrastructure Facilities, Packaging Development, Human Resource Development, Export Promotion, Marketing Development and Quality control. Besides, APEDA alongwith the State Governments have initiated several programmes under Agri Export Zones for paying focussed attention on area-based programme for export promotion of fruits and vegetables.

(d) The export of fruits and vegetables has been increasing during the last three years, as per the details given below:

Year	Quantity(MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1999-2000	502778	647.22
2000-01	623988	844.09
2001-02	788908	987.61

Opening of a dairy in Uttar Pradesh

1044. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open a dairy in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of financial allocations made, so far, in this respect; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Central Government and the Government of Uttar Pradesh have no proposal for opening a dairy in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year.