

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:811
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
VALUE ADDITION FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS .
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) The efforts being made to ensure higher income to farmers through value addition of their produce; and
(b) The extent to which the success has been /proposed to be made as a result thereof? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) &(b) Government is emphasizing on diversification of agriculture sector towards more high value crops and crops with potential for value addition such as horticultural crops with a view to enhance the income of the farmers. To this end, with effect from 2005-06, a National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been launched in the country with a total outlay of Rs. 2300.00 crore. during the Tenth Five Year Plan for the development of horticulture. The NHM, inter alia, aims at capacity building for production and supply of adequate quality planting material, increased coverage of crops under improved/high yielding cultivation, strengthening of infrastructure facilities, building a strong base to enhance efficiency in adoption of technologies etc. An amount of Rs.1000.00 crore has been provided during 2006-07 under NHM.

The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) helps in providing better income to the farmers through higher unit value realization and creating employment opportunities in rural areas by encouraging value added exports of farm produce. To achieve this objective, it addresses various problems and resolves constraints at different stages of entire supply chain to ensure competitiveness in the international market.

Due to various initiatives of the Government, 97503 hectares of additional area have been brought under different horticultural crops. An area of 5858 hectare has been covered under high value crops like medicinal and aromatic plants and flowers. Other achievements under NHM include establishment of 304 markets, 9 processing units, establishment of 420 nurseries and 3055 community water tanks and adoption of drip irrigation in 2121 hectares in the country.