

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:747

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006

PILOT PROJECT TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF TURMERIC

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a pilot project has been initiated by releasing Rs.15 crores in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh to increase the production on turmeric in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of districts where turmeric is produced in the State;
- (d) whether the quality of turmeric of Andhra Pradesh is not up to the mark; and
- (e) if so, the efforts made to improve the quality of turmeric in view of Andhra Pradesh being the largest producer of turmeric in the country?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Swaranajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) special project on Turmeric common facility centres has been initiated in Nizamabad to enhance the livelihood option to the turmeric growers by providing technical and marketing technologies during 2006-07 with District Rural Development Agency

(DRDA), Nizamabad as the implementing agency. Government of India has approved the project for Rs.13.83 crores and released Rs.2.64 crores.

(c): Major turmeric growing districts in the state are Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Adilabad Guntur, Rangareddy and Kedapa.

(d): No, the quality of turmeric of Andhra Pradesh is satisfactory and has good domestic market.

(e): Several steps are being taken up by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh for quality improvement in turmeric like:

Encouraging the usage by supplying of improved post harvest tools like poly sheets, turmeric cooking pans, polishing drums and drying platforms with assistance.

Promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to reduce pesticide residues by providing inputs.

Creating quality awareness by the adoption of improved pre and post harvest packages by conducting crop specific on farm training programme.