

# State's share in cultivation of fruits, veggies shoots up

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**Lucknow:** UP's share in cultivation of fruits and vegetables in the country increased from 7.2% to 9.2% in the last 10 years, according to agro-forestry report-2023 released by the Centre.

A state government spokesperson said the gross value output (GVO) of UP from agro-forestry increased from Rs 20,600 crore to Rs 38,000 crore.

"Cultivation of fruits and vegetables has become a field of immense possibilities for farmers. The state government has been appealing to the farmers to diversify according to market demand for better income," the spokesperson said, ad-

ding that the state had immense potential in terms of consumption in the domestic and international markets as well as for growth of processing units.

In the last six years, the area under cultivation of fruits and vegetables increased by over 1.01 lakh hectares and the yield by more than 0.7%. The spokesperson said the state government has set the target of increasing the area under horticulture crops from 11.6% to 16% and food processing from 6% to 20% by 2027.

The spokesperson said the government will set up an centre of excellence, mini excellence centre or hi-tech nursery in every district.