Constraints faced by the brinjal growers in adoption of recommended productions technology

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ABSTRACT
Anand district was selected for the study. Total 120 brinjal growers, with minimum 3 years of experience in brinjal cultivation were selected randomly from twelve villages of selected four Talukas. Findings of this study revealed that major constraints faced by brinjal growers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal were high cost of inputs, fluctuations in market rate, unavailability of healthy seedlings, non-availability of labours, high cost of transportation, lack of timely technical guidance, high rate of labours and non-availability of timely credits. The prices of inputs should be minimized, timely technical guidance, good and healthy seedlings be provided, rate of agricultural produce should be regulated and proper marketing facilities should be established were the important suggestions given by brinjal growers for over coming the constraints faced by them.

INTRODUCTION
Brinjal or egg plant (Solanum melongea L.) belongs to Solanaceae family. It originated in India. According to USDA, production of eggplant is highly concentrated. China is the top producer having 55 per cent of production from world and India is second producer having about 28 per cent production about 8,200,000 MT. (Anonymous, 2006).

Brinjal is an important and indigenous vegetable crop of India. It contributes 9 per cent of the total vegetable production of the country. It occupies the third position amongst vegetable crops. West Bengal is the largest producer of brinjal followed by Maharashtra and Bihar. The other main states growing brinjal are Karnataka, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh.

Recent data of area and production of the district show that areas under brinjal cultivation have been increased however the yield in downfall year by year. Therefore, there is a wide gap between the average yield of farmer’s field and the potential yield of the crop. This indicates that the farmers might be facing certain problems in brinjal cultivation. Looking to this situation, a study was under taken with the specific objectives: to identify the constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of recommended production technology of brinjal and to seek the suggestions from the brinjal growers to overcome the constraints faced by them.

METHODOLOGY
Anand district was selected for the study. Anand, Borsad, Anklav and Umreth talukas of Anand district were purposively selected, because these Talukas have more brinjal growing area as compared to other Talukas. Twelve brinjal growing villages were randomly selected from these four Talukas. From each selected village, 10 brinjal growers with minimum 3 years of experience in brinjal cultivation were selected randomly making a total sample of 120 brinjal growers. A simple ranking technique was applied to measure the constraints faced by brinjal growers and