

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1935
 ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2025

SETTING UP OF DATE, PALM AND DRY HORTICULTURE PROCESSING UNITS

1935. SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL:

Will the Minister of *FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is promoting Date, Palm and Dry Horticulture processing units in Western India;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government in this regard so far including the details of schemes implemented, financial assistance provided and the States/districts in which processing units have been set up/approved in Western India;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to implement or launch any scheme to provide cashew saplings to farmers and promote cashew based horticulture and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether similar initiatives are being taken by the Government to promote similar Date, Palm and Dry Horticulture processing units in other drought-affected areas of the country especially in Rajasthan, Vidarbha, Kutch, Saurashtra and Marathwada; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
 (SHRI RAVNEET SINGH)

(a) & (b): In order to promote and ensure overall development of food processing sector including processing of date, palm and horticulture based industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of related infrastructure through its two Central Sector Schemes namely Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI). Further, a Centrally sponsored PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme is also being implemented by MoFPI. All these three schemes are implemented across the country including Western India. The number of projects approved under these schemes in Western India, since inception of the schemes, are as under-

S. No.	State/UT	No. of approved projects under PMKSY	No. of approved Micro Food Processing Enterprises under PMFME	No. of approved applications at different locations under PLISFPI
1.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	12	0
2.	Goa	2	137	1

3.	Gujarat	109	1010	32
4.	Maharashtra	244	26172	41
5.	Rajasthan	55	1351	6

(c): As per the information provided by Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development, under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the said Directorate is implementing development schemes under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to promote cashew cultivation in the country. The details of programmes being implemented by said Directorate is given at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e): Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial support to prospective entrepreneurs for setting up of different kinds of food processing industries including processing of Date, Palm and horticulture based industries, as per respective scheme guidelines across the country including Vidarbha & Marathwada regions of Maharashtra and Kutch & Saurashtra regions of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Further, one processing unit has been established at Date Palm Research Station, Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agriculture University, Mundra- Kutch (Gujarat) as a Research initiative for the processing of Date with financial assistance of Rs. 74 lakh under Pradhan Mantri – Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1935 FOR ANSWER ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2025 REGARDING “SETTING UP OF DATE, PALM AND DRY HORTICULTURE PROCESSING UNITS”

Cashew development schemes of Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa development under MIDH

Sl No	Scheme	Objective
1.	Establishment of new plantation of cashew without integration with drip	The development of new plantations with clones of high yielding varieties of cashew in the farmer's field has been envisaged under this programme.
2.	Establishment of cashew high density plantation	The development of new high density plantations with high yielding varieties of cashew in the farmer's field has been envisaged under this programme.
3.	Replantation of senile cashew plantation- i. Removal of senile plantations, ii. planting with high yielding varieties and iii. Cost of input towards INM/IPM and Irrigation	To increase the production and productivity of the senile plantations owned by the corporation in various states by removing the senile plantations and replanted with high yielding varieties of cashew.
4.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high density planting with drip Irrigation	To demonstrate the high-density planting technology of cashew with high yielding varieties in farmer's field/public farms with drip irrigation in a compact area of one ha.
5.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high density planting without drip irrigation	To demonstrate the high-density planting technology of cashew with high yielding varieties in farmer's field.
6.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high yielding variety in normal density with drip Irrigation	To demonstrate the latest high yielding varieties in farmer's field/ public farms with drip irrigation.
7.	Varietal demonstration with normal density without drip	To demonstrate the latest high yielding varieties in farmer's field/ public farms.
8.	Promotion of Integrated Nutrient Management/ Integrated Pest Management	To improve the production and productivity of cashew and cocoa plantations by promoting INM/IPM practices
9.	Establishment small cashew/cocoa nurseries	Production and distribution of good quality planting material to meet the requirement of high yielding varieties for new planting and replanting of cashew in the country by establishing new nurseries
10.	Upgradation/ modernization of existing nurseries (Nos)	To upgrade the infrastructure facilities of existing cashew/cocoa nurseries for ensuring the quality and

		quantity of the planting materials, thereto meet the accreditation norms.
11.	Up-gradation of cashew nursery by establishing cashew mother block with drip irrigation and fertigation facility	To upgrade the nursery infrastructure by establishing mother block with high yielding varieties with drip irrigation and fertigation unit in research stations/SAU's/ICAR institutes/existing cashew nurseries.
12.	District level seminar	To give intensive publicity measures for promotion of cashew by dissemination of latest production technologies to the farming community and other target groups coming under the fold of cultivation, processing, marketing and export by organizing district level seminar in various states.
13.	Cashew fair/day	To make aware the farmers/ public the importance, scope, latest technologies of cashew cultivation and to make it profitable enterprise by organizing mela/field day in different district/States
14.	Cashew apple utilization training for unemployed women farmers and young farmers	To popularize the usage of cashew apple by giving training on preparation of cashew apple products to the unemployed women farmers and young farmers in association with research institutions.
15.	Farmers training on cashew production technologies	Provides appropriate seasonal training to the farmers in various aspects of cashew and cocoa farming consisting of production technology, varieties, high density planting, organic cultivation, INM/IPM <i>etc.</i>
16.	Exposure visit- outside the state	To expose tribal and other farmers from cashew growing districts of the States to the traditional growing districts of other States for familiarizing production and management practices being followed in the other states.
17.	Exposure visit- within the state	To expose cashew growing districts of the States to the traditional growing districts within the states for familiarizing production and management practices.
18.	Establishment of primary/minimal processing unit of cashew	To establish primary/minimal processing unit of cashew.
