

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2352  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER, 2019

**ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS OF MAHARASHTRA**

2352. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is providing any kind of assistance to the farmers of Maharashtra to cultivate, develop and market agricultural products especially mangoes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering providing special financial assistance to the farmers of Maharashtra to develop "Clusters of Farmers" and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Agriculture is a State subject in the Constitution of India. Government of India plays a supportive role through various schemes, programmes and policy support.

All the schemes of Government of India for cultivation, development and marketing of agricultural produce, including mangoes, are also available to farmers of Maharashtra.

Assistance has also been provided to Government of Maharashtra under MIDH for establishment of two Centres of Excellence specially for mangoes. One Centre of Excellence (CoE) for mango had been established at Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli during 2008-10 at a cost of Rs. 636 lakh and another Centre of Excellence for kesar mango has been established at Himayatbaug District, Aurangabad during 2012-15 at a cost of Rs. 744 lakh under Indo Israel cooperation programme. These centres are engaged in production and supply of quality planting material to farmers, conducting demonstrations for high density plantations and rejuvenation of old orchards at farmers field apart from conducting on and off campus training of farmers and field staff.

(c): The Government is providing financial assistance to States including that of Maharashtra through various schemes/programmes such as NFSM, MIDH, PKVY for development of clusters of farmers. Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), a registered society under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India has been forming and promoting clusters in the form of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and so far, they have helped 100 FPOs in registering as companies in Maharashtra. Besides, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is also forming FPOs and so far they have formed 311 FPOs in Maharashtra.