

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1335
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03rd DECEMBER, 2024

IMPACT OF CRISIS IN CASHEW INDUSTRY

1335. SHRI N K PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government conducted study regarding the crisis in cashew industry;
- (b) if so the details of action taken by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to initiate action to introduce a revival plan for cashew industry and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government discussed with Finance Department for introduce a scheme for save the cashew industry in Kerala, if so the details thereof;
- (e) whether it comes to the notice of the Government that the revival plan approved by the Government of Kerala is not implemented by the banks, if so, the action taken to implement the same;
- (f) whether the Government conducted study regarding the unemployment and social impact due to closure of cashew industry in Kerala; and
- (g) if so, the details of action taken by the Government to resolve the crisis?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFAREs

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b): Yes, the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Kerala constituted a five member expert committee to sort out various issues and challenges of cashew industry in Kerala. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Ministry of Commerce has awarded a study to M/S Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) on “ An Assessment of market for selected value added agriproducts including cashew and interventions for increasing their export”.

(c): Yes, the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Kerala has introduced a scheme for the revival of cashew sector named Revival, Rejuvenation and Resurrection of Cashew sector. The Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development (DCCD), Kochi, Kerala under Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is also promoting development of cashew cultivation including promotion of area expansion, enhancing production and productivity by providing support to farmers under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), such as area expansion, rejuvenation of senile plantations, and capacity building for farmers to improve production. The details of assistance given to farmers are at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e): Yes, the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Kerala with concurrence of its Finance Department has introduced Scheme for cashew sector and the assistance is given for capital grants and interest subvention to Small and Medium Cashew factory units. Their officers has communicated to the banks for the implementation of Government schemes. Further, APEDA under Ministry of Commerce and Industry is extending support for export promotion in the country including Kerala State for development of export infrastructure, quality development & market development under Agriculture & Processed Food Export Promotion Scheme.

(f) & (g): The expert Committee constituted by the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Kerala has studied about the unemployment and social impact due to closure of cashew industry in Kerala and introduced the One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for the settlement of financial crisis of the employers.

Annexure

Cashew development schemes of Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa Development (DCCD) under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)

Sl. No.	Scheme component	Pattern of assistance
1.	Establishment of new plantation of cashew (ha) without integration with drip	Rs.20,000/ha (40% of the cost) for meeting cost of planting material and cost of INM/IPM in three instalments in the ratio of 60:20:20. (Three year programme)
2.	Establishment of new plantation by replacing senile plantations and replanting with high yielding varieties	Rs.20,000/ha for meeting cost of planting material and cost of INM/IPM in three instalments of 60:20:20
3.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high density planting with drip Irrigation	Maximum 1.125 lakhs/ unit of 1 ha for meeting the cost of inputs (75% of the total cost).
4.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high density in cashew	Maximum 0.40 lakhs/ unit of 1 ha for meeting the cost of inputs
5.	Establishment of demonstration plots with high yielding variety in normal density with drip Irrigation	Maximum 0.75 lakhs/ unit of 1 ha for meeting the cost of inputs
6.	Varietal demonstration with normal density	Maximum 0.20 lakhs/ unit of 1 ha for meeting the cost of inputs.
7.	Establishment small cashew nurseries	Maximum of 7.50 lakhs for small nursery as a credit linked back ended subsidy. No need of bankable proposal for public institutions
8.	Upgradation / modernization of nurseries	Modernization/upgradation: Financial assistance subject to a maximum of Rs. 5.00 lakh/nursery.
9.	District level seminar	100% assistance subject to a maximum of Rs.75,000/- per event of 1 day
10.	Cashew fair/day	Maximum of Rs.0.50-3.00 lakh per event
11.	Cashew apple utilization training	Rs.20,000/- for 1 day training per batch of 25 participants
12.	Farmers training on cashew production technologies	Rs.30,000/- for one day training per batch of 50 participants
13.	Exposure visit	Rs.2.75 lakhs for 7 days visit per batch of 50 farmers
14.	Primary processing unit in cashew	Credit linked back-ended subsidy @ 40% of the capital cost maximum of Rs.10.00 lakhs.
