

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1517**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>TH</sup> July, 2025

**SUPPORT TO CASHEW AND SUGARCANE FARMERS**

1517. SHRI CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted or received any assessment of the financial distress faced by small and medium cashew planters and Sugarcane growers in Goa, particularly due to fluctuating market prices, high input costs, labour shortages and lack of institutional support;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to introduce a Minimum Support Price, procurement mechanism or dedicated support for Goan cashew growers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the continued policy neglect of the cashew sector in Goa; and
- (c) whether the Government plans to recommence the Sanjivni Sugar factory, if so, the details thereof and the alternative options proposed for the factory, the workers and any plan for utilising the land?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्यमंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): No Sir.

(b): No Sir. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to include more crops under Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime. The inclusion of crops under MSP framework is dependent on several factors which include relatively large shelf life, non- perishable, widely grown, item of mass consumption, essential for food security, among others.

However, Government has taken several initiatives for cashew industry which include following:.

- i. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented under Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare for holistic growth of the horticulture sector including cashew. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH scheme.
- ii. Programmes for the development of cashew under MIDH are implemented through Directorate of Cashew nut and Cocoa Development (DCCD), Kochi. The Directorate is implementing programmes for improving production and productivity through new planting programme & rejuvenation by using high yielding varieties in the country. The programmes involve removal of senile plantations and replanting with High Yielding varieties as per suitability of the location.
- iii. Directorate of Cashew & Cocoa Development in association with various research stations, is organizing various transfer of technology programmes .

(c): The Central Government has de-licensed the sugar industry in 1998. After this, any entrepreneur is free to establish a sugar mill in any part of the country. As far as the private sector is concerned, it is the responsibility of the entrepreneurs concerned to take steps for reopening/reviving the closed or sick sugar mills. In the case of public and co-operative sector sugar mills, it is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/Union Territories to take appropriate steps in this direction. The Central Government does not establish any kind of sugar mill in any part of the country.

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