

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2630
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH AUGUST, 2025

**COMMERCIALISATION OF CENTRES OF EXCELLENCES FOR FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES**

2630. SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:
SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:
MS KANGNA RANAUT:
DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND:
SMT. KAMALJEET SEHRAWAT:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has formulated any plan for the commercialisation of Centres of Excellence (CoEs) for fruits and vegetables with the objective of improving the income and productivity of farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the mechanisms adopted for knowledge transfer, training and market linkage;
- (c) the number of CoEs approved and operational across the country since the inception of the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), State-wise and year-wise including Himachal Pradesh;
- (d) whether the Government of India has entered into any bilateral partnership with the Government of Israel for horticulture development and fruit production and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to establish a Centre of Excellence for fruits or vegetables in Mangaluru to serve farmers in the Coastal Karnataka region and if so, the status of such a proposal?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The Union Government, under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), provides support for setting up of Centres of Excellence (CoEs) for fruits and vegetables in collaboration with various stakeholders including bilateral partners. The Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in horticulture are established with the aim of serving as hubs for demonstration, training, and dissemination of the latest technologies in horticultural production by promoting capacity building, production of planting material and adoption of new technologies in horticulture sector. The primary objective of CoEs is to transfer knowledge and practical skills to farmers, entrepreneurs, and extension workers, thereby enhancing productivity, quality, and sustainability in the horticulture sector. By showcasing modern innovations and providing hands-on training, CoEs play a vital role in bridging the gap between research and field-level adoption. Government of India has

entered into bilateral cooperation agreement with Israel, Netherlands, New Zealand for establishment of CoEs. Besides, CoEs are also established with technical assistance from Indian Research Institutes.

(c): Under MIDH, a total of 58 Centres of Excellence have been approved across various States in the country. The state-wise details of CoEs approved as on 31.07.2025 including for Himachal Pradesh are as under:

S. No.	State	No. of CoE
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	2
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	4
6.	Haryana	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	2
9.	Karnataka	5
10.	Kerala	1
11.	Ladakh (UT)	1
12.	Maharashtra	7
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2
14.	Meghalaya	1
15.	Mizoram	1
16.	Odisha	1
17.	Punjab	6
18.	Rajasthan	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	2
20.	Telangana	1
21.	Tripura	2
22.	Uttarakhand	1
23.	Uttar Pradesh	4
24.	West Bengal	1
	Total	58

(d): The Government of India has entered into a bilateral agreement with the Government of Israel for cooperation in agriculture, which includes horticulture development and fruit production. Under this collaboration, the Indo-Israel Agricultural Project (IIAP) has facilitated the establishment of Centres of Excellence across various States. These CoEs incorporate Israeli technology and know-how to enhance productivity, improve water use efficiency and ensure quality produce.

(e): There is no proposal for establishment of a Centre of Excellence for horticulture in the Mangaluru region of Karnataka, under consideration of the Government.
