

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4421
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011
PALM CULTIVATION
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to increase the area under cultivation of palm in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether the increased cultivations of palm is likely to minimise the import of edible oil in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Government of India has launched Oilpalm Area Expansion (OPAE) Programme for bringing 60,000 hectares, during 2011-12 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). OPAE includes a strategy indicating State specific targets for area expansion, critical interventions, pattern of assistance, research and development components, institutional linkages, monitoring etc. Besides OPAE, Government of India is already implementing oil palm development programme under centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) since 1.4.2004 in the identified states which have potential to grow oil palm in the country.

The State wise allocation and release of funds under OPAE during 2011-12 is as under:

Rs. in lakh

State Allocation Release

Andhra Pradesh	19200.00	9600.00
Chhattisgarh	48.00	24.00
Gujarat	480.00	240.00
Karnataka	3360.00	1680.00
Maharashtra	96.00	48.00
Mizoram	1480.00	740.00
Orissa	1776.00	888.00
Tamil Nadu	3360.00	0.00

(c) & (d): Every one lakh hectare oil palm cultivation can reduce import requirement by 0.4 million tonnes.