



Goan Cashew Gets GI Tag

[Source:IE](#)

Why in News?

Recently, **Goan cashew (kernel)** got the [Geographical Indication \(GI\) tag](#) where recognition is hailed as a great opportunity for the cashew industry in the state and “a milestone towards Swayampurna Goa mission”.

What is Goan Cashew?

- Cashew was native to northeast Brazil in Latin America and **Goan Cashew** was introduced to Goa by the **Portuguese in the 16th century (1570)**.
- Initially used for **afforestation and soil conservation**, its economic value became known a century later.
- Cashew production grew from a **cottage industry to a major contributor to Goa's economy**, mainly due to its demand in the US.

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What are the Key Facts of Cashew?

- **About:**
 - Cashew is one of the most important plantation crops in India as it brings in considerable foreign exchange earnings. **In the state of Goa, it occupies the largest area** among horticultural crops.
- **Soil and climate:**
 - **Well-drained deep sandy loam soils** are the best for growing cashew. Heavy clay soils are not suitable, as cashew does not withstand water logging.
 - In general, **all soils from sandy to laterite are well suited for this crop**.
- **Rainfall:**

- Cashew is very well adapted to Indian coastal areas under conditions with relative humidity in the range of 60 to 95 % and annual precipitation in the **range of 2000 to 3500 mm.**
- **Temperature:**
 - Hot humid conditions with temperature in the range of 20 to 38°C are suitable for cashew cultivation. **Extreme low temperature and frost are not conducive** to raise cashew plantations.
- **Major Producing States:**
 - As per **National Horticulture Board, Maharashtra is the leading producer of cashew nuts followed by** Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Gujarat in 2021-2022.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Years Questions (PYQs)

Prelims

Q 1. Which of the following has/have been accorded 'Geographical Indication' status? (2015)

1. Banaras Brocades and Sarees
2. Rajasthani Daal-Bati-Churma
3. Tirupathi Laddu

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Q 2. India enacted the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 in order to comply with the obligations to: (2018)

- (a) ILO
- (b) IMF
- (c) UNCTAD
- (d) WTO

Ans: (d)