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It further read that the CPP will have three components — Clean Plant Centres (CPCs), certification and legal framework, and enhanced Infrastructure. "The programme will be implemented by the National Horticulture Board in association with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research."

The Cabinet on Friday approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP), with an outlay of Rs 1,766 crore, under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

Briefing on the Cabinet decisions, Information and Broadcasting Minister <u>Ashwini</u> <u>Vaishnaw</u> said that nine institutions will be developed as clean plant centres, along with 75 nurseries for planting materials.

An official statement read: "With a substantial investment of Rs 1,765.67 crore, this pioneering initiative is set to revolutionise the horticulture sector in India, as well as expected to set new standards for excellence and sustainability. Earlier announced during the Finance Minister's <u>Budget</u> speech in February 2023, the CPP represents a major leap forward in enhancing the quality and productivity of fruit crops."

Discussing the key benefits, proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the statement further said that the CPP will provide access to virus-free and high-quality planting materials, leading to improved crop yields and income

opportunities for farmers. "The initiative will ensure superior produce with enhanced taste, appearance and nutritional value," it said.





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Harikishan Sharma







Harikishan Sharma, Senior Assistant Editor at The Indian Express' National Bureau, specializes in reporting on governance, policy, and data. He covers the Prime Minist

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