

Visit of the Delegation to the Asia and the Pacific Food Systems (AFS) Forum 2026 Manila, Philippines under the leadership of the Hon'ble Minister (Marketing & Protocol), Government of Maharashtra.

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Co-operation, Marketing and Textile Department
Government Resolution No.Misc-1526 /C.R.103/Part-1/21-C
Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032
Date: 13 March, 2026.**

Government Resolution

The Government of Maharashtra is strengthening the agricultural value chain and agribusiness ecosystem through implementation of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) assisted Maharashtra Agribusiness Network (MAGNET) Project across the state. The project focuses on improving post-harvest infrastructure, strengthening market linkages, and promoting innovative technologies to enhance farmers' income and agricultural competitiveness.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is organizing the **Asia and the Pacific Food Systems (AFS) Forum 2026** with the theme “**Feeding the Future, Sustaining the Planet**”, scheduled to be held from 16th to 19th March 2026 at ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines. The forum will bring together policymakers, development partners, private sector representatives, researchers, and international experts to discuss strategies for transforming food systems across Asia and the Pacific region.

The forum will focus on key themes such as climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable food production systems, food and nutrition security, digital innovations in agriculture, and strengthening rural economies. It will also showcase regional initiatives and innovative approaches aimed at improving productivity, enhancing resilience to climate change, and promoting sustainable agricultural development.

ADB has invited representatives from the Maharashtra Agribusiness Network (MAGNET) Project to participate in the forum and share perspectives from Maharashtra on strengthening agricultural value chains, improving post-harvest management, and promoting agribusiness investments. Participation in the forum will provide an opportunity to exchange knowledge, engage with global experts, and explore potential collaborations and partnerships for strengthening food systems in the state.

Considering the above potential benefits, the Government of Maharashtra, through the Maharashtra Agribusiness Network Project (MAGNET), has planned a visit to Manila, Philippines from 15th to 20th March 2026 (inclusive of travel time)

2. Accordingly, Government of Maharashtra is pleased to accord the sanction to the tour of following officer as a part of the delegation led by Shri. Jaykumar Jitendrasinh Rawal, Minister (Marketing & Protocol), Government of Maharashtra.

Sr.	Name	Designation
1	Shri. Vinayak Vitthalrao Kokare	Project Director, Maharashtra Agribusiness Network Project (MAGNET), Pune.

3. Accordingly, Government of Maharashtra is pleased to accord the sanction to the following tour program

Date	Departure	Arrival	Details
15/03/2026	Mumbai, India	Manila, Philippines	Departure from Mumbai, India to Manila, Philippines
16/03/2026	Manila, Philippines	-	Participation in Asia and the Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026
17/03/2026	Manila, Philippines	-	Participation in Asia and the Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026 Leaders Session 2: Partners and Thought Leaders (Operationalizing Food Systems Transformation) Hon. Shri. Jayakumar Rawal, Minister (Marketing & Protocol), Government of Maharashtra and Chairman, MAGNET Society
18/03/2026	Manila, Philippines	-	Participation in Asia and the Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026
19/03/2026	Manila, Philippines	-	Participation in Asia and the Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026
20/03/2026	Manila, Philippines	Mumbai, India	Departure from Manila, Philippines to Mumbai, India

4. All expenses for the visit, such as air travel, visa, stay arrangements etc., will be borne by the Maharashtra Agribusiness Network Project (MAGNET), Pune.
5. Accordingly it is requested to grant necessary political clearance for the said visit including clearance for release of foreign exchange.
6. The Government is further pleased to authorize the Period of absence from duty of nominated delegates to be treated as "on duty period" until they resumes on their duty on return to India from the said tour.
7. Nominated delegates are also allowed to avail of the transit period as required for completing the visa formalities etc. and performing journey from the place of their duty to the place of tour and back.
8. Nominated officers should submit a report to Government about their tour within the period of three months from the date.

9. In this case, the concerned officer should be covered by medical insurance through the concerned department. Also care should be taken to ensure that appropriate medical treatment is provided in case of and infectious diseases like Covid.
10. This Government Resolution is published on official website www.maharashtra.gov.in of Government of Maharashtra and its reference no is 202603131136080502 This Government Resolution is being issued with digital signature

By the order and in the name of Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra.

(Madhavi Shinde)

Under Secretary to Government of Maharashtra

To,

- 1) The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, 3 Circular Road, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India
- 2) The Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, North Block, New Delhi.
- 3) The Secretary, Agriculture and Co-Operation & farmer welfare, Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 4) The Resident Commissioner & Principal Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra, Maharashtra Sadan, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi-110001.

Copy to:

- 1) The Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 2) The Secretary, to the Government of India, Ministry of Economic Affairs, New Delhi.
- 3) The Secretary, to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
- 4) The Additional Chief Secretary, (Services), General Administration Department Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 5) The Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 6) The Principal Secretary, Co-operation and Marketing Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 7) Private Secretary to Hon. Minister (Marketing & Protocol), Government of Maharashtra-Mumbai-India
- 8) Project Director, Maharashtra Agribusiness Network Project (MAGNET) Pune.
- 9) Select File.