

Regarding problems faced by coconut farmers in Tamil Nadu-laid

SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (ERODE): I wish to state that the NAFED procured coconut copra from the farms at Rs. 111.60 per kg and stocked one lakh MT from Tamil Nadu alone. NAFED is selling the coconut copra in the open market through auction very seriously. But, the buyers quoted price of coconut copra Rs. 75 per kg.

Only 20% of the total coconut copra production is procured by the NAFED. Remaining 80% of the coconuts are sold in the open market. 20% of the copra procured in Tamil Nadu was sold by NAFED in the open market through auction. So, coconut copra market price has come down from 75 to 80. While selling one lakh metric tons of copra which is procured from Tamil Nadu, the cost of copra per kg. is 85, it will fall to Rs. 50. The price of one coconut is Rs. 12 and will fall to Rs. 5. As a result, one crore coconut farmers in India particularly in Tamil Nadu will be severely affected.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary action to produce oil in the name of Bharat Coconut Oil like Bharat Atta, Bharat Dal, Bharat Onion which is beneficial for farmers and the public.