

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1227
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2024

SUPPORT TO COCONUT AND RUBBER FARMERS

1227. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure that Minimum Support Price (MSP) is provided on time to coconut farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps and measures taken to promote coconut farming in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has data regarding the total acreage of coconut farms and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has noticed that rubber farming is becoming a loss making venture and if so, the details taken to ensure that rubber farmers do not incur loss; and
- (e) whether the Government has data regarding support given to rubber farmers during the last five years by the Union and the State Government of Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The Government of India has declared the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Fair Average Quality of milling copra at Rs.11,160/- per quintal and ball copra at Rs.12,000/- per quintal for 2024 season based on the recommendations of Coconut Development Board (CDB) and State Governments.

The Central Nodal Agencies for MSP procurement are National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF). Whenever the market price falls below the MSP based on proposals from the State Governments, procurement is undertaken at MSP by NAFED from time to time.

(b): To promote coconut farming in the country, CDB provides technical and financial assistance under various schemes of the Board as mentioned below :

Schemes	
Planting material production	1. Production and distribution of quality planting material a) Establishment of DSP Farms b) Establishment of Regional Coconut nurseries c) Establishment of Nucleus Coconut Seed Garden d) Establishment of Small Coconut nursery
Production & productivity of coconut	2. Expansion of area under coconut 3. Integrated farming for productivity improvement a) Laying out of Demonstration Plots (LoDP) b) Organic Manure Units (OMU) 4. Replanting and Rejuvenation of Coconut Garden
Value addition, Marketing, etc.	5. Technology Mission on Coconut 6. Marketing, Market Intelligence services, Statistics and strengthening of Export Promotion Council (EPC) 7. Technology demonstration / Quality Control
Publicity, Extension, skill development	8. Information & Information Technology
Insurance – Palms & Climbers	9. Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme 10. Kera Suraksha Insurance Scheme

(c): As per the Area and Production Statistics of Coconut (Second Estimate – 2023-24) published by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the area and production under coconut cultivation is 2328 thousand Ha. and 15368 thousand MT respectively.

(d): The natural rubber producers who adopt recommended agricultural practices are getting adequate price for their product vis-a-vis expenditure. Domestic Natural Rubber prices have increased in the country in the recent past and the monthly average price for the RSS4 grade natural rubber in Kerala during June 2024 was Rs. 200.67 per kg.

As domestic Natural Rubber price is highly sensitive and is linked to prevailing international prices of natural rubber, the Government has been taking steps from time to time to ensure that domestic farmers get remunerative prices for their produce.

(e): Details of support given to rubber farmers by the Government of India through Rubber Board and Government of Kerala through Rubber Production Incentive Scheme (RPIS) during the last five years are as under :

YEAR	Support from Rubber Board, Government of India Amount (Rs in crore)	Support from Government of Kerala Amount (Rs in crore)
2019-20	11.06	209.47
2020-21	20.41	35.95
2021-22	21.84	2.16
2022-23	45.37	214.11
2023-24	36.04	25.89
