

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3066  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002  
ALLOCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COCONUT INDUSTRY  
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether only Rs.174 crore was allocated for Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan Period;
- (b) whether the Government are aware that coconut mites have damaged plenty of coconut trees in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the meagre fund allocation by the Centre for research and control of mites is the main cause for the coconut mite-menace in the country; and
- (e) whether the Government contemplate to allocate more funds for mite control under the Tenth Plan?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a): As compared to an allocation of Rs. 79.29 crores during VIII Plan, an allocation of Rs.174.00 crores was made during IX Plan under the Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India.
- (b) & (c): As per the survey conducted by the Government of Tamil Nadu during the year 2001, around 212 lakh coconut palms have been affected by coconut mite in 27 districts.
- (d): Government of India through the Coconut Development Board has provided an amount of Rs.5800.00 lakh exclusively for control of coconut mite in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa. Similarly, an amount of Rs.141.95 lakh was released for taking up research projects on mite under National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP). Government of India also constituted a Steering Committee to assess the situation and take timely action at various levels and also evolve future strategies for effective control of mite and their further spread. The Coconut Development Board released a total amount of Rs. 1054.52 lakhs to Government of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99 to 2000-2001 for adopting control measures against mite. An amount of Rs.950.00 lakh released during 2000-2001 was not utilized by the State Government during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. This amount was revalidated for utilization during the current year.
- (e): During 2002-2003, an allocation of Rs.2000.00 lakh is provided under Technology Mission on Coconut which include management of eriophyid mite of coconut.