

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1260
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
FALL IN PRICE OF ARECANUT
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a steep fall in the price of arecanut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to address the plight of arecanut growers; and
- (d) the details of production and consumption of arecanut in the country during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise and quantity-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a): Madam, there has not been a steep fall in the prices of arecanut however, the market has undergone slight fluctuation.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c): 1. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'National Horticulture Mission' assistance has been extended for the following activities during 2007-08:
 - (i) Rehabilitation of Yellow Leaf Disease (YLD) affected arecanut gardens in Kerala for a period of three years at a total cost of Rs. 1170.83 lakh.
 - (ii) Plant Protection measures for Koleroga affected arecanut gardens and awareness programmes in Karnataka.
- 2. Research on arecanut is being carried out by the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities for effective control of YLD of arecanut.
- 3. Government of India has raised the import duty of arecanut from 35% to 100% to restrict the imports of arecanut into the country.
- (d): The details of production of arecanut in the country during the last three years and current year, State-wise, year-wise and quantity-wise is given as Annexure-I.

The state-wise data on consumption of arecanut is not available. However, the estimated consumption of arecanut in the country during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is as under:

(In '000 tonnes)
2007-08 2008-09 2009-10

511.16 530.16 506.64