

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:442
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
COCONUT CULTIVATION
Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has chalked out any programme to enhance the production and productivity of coconut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the plight of farmers on account of the steep decline in the prices of coconut; and
- (d) if so, the corrective action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 442 DUE FOR REPLY ON 04-08-2009.

(a) to (d): The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India is implementing various schemes for the production and productivity improvement of coconut through the Coconut Development Board. The details of assistance being provided to farmers under different schemes of Coconut Development Board are annexed.

With a view to protect the interest of the coconut growers and industry, Government of India declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) for milling copra, ball copra and de-husked coconut. For the 2009 season, MSP of milling copra has been increased to Rs.4,450/- per quintal and that of ball copra to Rs.4,700/- per quintal as against Rs.3,660/- and Rs.3,910/- per quintal for milling copra and ball copra respectively during 2008. Further, the MSP for de-husked coconut has been fixed at Rs.12/- per Kg. for the year 2009 as against the previous year's MSP of Rs.9.88 per Kg.