GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:771 ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012 MSP OF COPRA Antony Shri Anto;Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that coconut farmers are facing crisis due to sharp fall in the price of coconut;

(b) if so, the details of the average price of coconut during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal to enhance the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): Details of the average price of copra in selected centres of Kerala and Tamilnadu during last three years is given in Annexure I.

(c) & (d): While fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Milling Copra at Rs. 5100/- per quintal and of Ball Copra at Rs. 5350/- per quintal for 2012 season, Government has already taken into account the views of the State Governments, Central Ministries and such other relevant factors which are considered important for the. fixation of Minimum Support Prices. Details of MSP proposed by the State Governments for Copra for 2012 season are included in Annexure II.

NAFED is undertaking the procurement of FAQ Milling Copra as well as Ball Copra under Price Support Scheme. So far (as on 21.11.2012) NAFED has procured a quantity of 54,864 MTs of Milling Copra, 7886 MTs of Ball Copra and 49 MTs AP Special Grade Copra. The procurement is still continuing. As per existing practice, the procurement of copra under Price Support Scheme (PSS) is made directly from the farmers through cooperative network, without involving the middlemen so as to give maximum benefit of the scheme to the genuine farmers.