GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1627 ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012 SUBSIDY TO COCONUT FARMERS Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coconut is declining continuously in the country including Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of programmes/schemes for providing subsidy to coconut farmers to promote cultivation of coconut in Kerala; and

(c) the details of assistance provided to the coconut farmers under these schemes during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The production of coconut is not declining continuously in the country including Kerala. The details of schemes providing subsidy to promote cultivation of coconut in Kerala are as under:

"Integrated Farming for Productivity Improvement" to promote adoption of scientific coconut cultivation by giving assistance of Rs. 35000/- per ha for laying out of demonstration plots and Rs. 20000/- per unit for establishment of organic manure units.

"Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme" for protecting coconut cultivation from natural calamities. The scheme is covering all healthy nuts bearing palm in the age group of 4-60 years. Premium is borne by the CDB, State Governments and farmers by 50%, 25% & 25% respectively.

"Replanting and Rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens" for removal of all advanced disease affected, unproductive, old and senile palms in targeted areas with a compensation of Rs. 13000/- per palm (i.e. for the first 20 palms @ Rs. 500/- and the remaining palms @ Rs.250/- limited to 12 palms per ha), Rejuvenation of existing gardens through integrated management practices @ Rs. 15000/ha for 2 years @ Rs.7500/- per ha and Assistance for replanting @ Rs. 20 per seedling.

Apart from the above, schemes like "Expansion of area under coconut", "Production and distribution of quality planting materials", "Technology Mission on Coconut", "Market promotion and statistics" and other schemes are also implemented for the benefit of coconut farmers in Kerala.

Government of India has also increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) for milling copra, ball copra and dehusked mature coconut with water.

(c): Total amount of Rs. 188.74 crore has been provided to the coconut farmers during the last three years under different developmental programmes and an amount of Rs. 88.00 crore has been allocated for the current year.