GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1675 ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012 COCONUT PRODUCTION Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the plight of coconut growers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of production of coconut in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan to provide assistance to coconut growers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The steep price fall of coconut and prevalence of diseases & pests causing reduction in productivity of palms are the major concerns of the coconut growers.
- (c): Statewise production of coconut in the country from 2006-07 to 2009-10 (latest available) is furnished in Annexure.
- (d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Coconut Development Board (CDB), Government of India has been providing assistance to the coconut growers under the following major schemes:

"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 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.

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

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S.No. Item MSP %
  (in Rs. per
  quintal)
  increase
  2011 2012

1. Milling Copra 4525 5100 12.71%
2. Ball Copra 4775 5350 12.04%
3. Dehusked mature
  coconut
  with water 1200 1400 16.66%
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