

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2359
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
COCONUT OIL UNDER PDS
Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to distribute subsidised coconut oil through the Public Distribution System (PDS) with a view to support the farmers suffering due to fall in its prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to promote the value added products of coconut; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d): Coconut Development Board is promoting production of value added products from coconut viz; packed tender coconut, coconut chips, virgin coconut oil, desiccated coconut powder, Coconut milk/milk powder/milk cream, ball copra (as edible dry fruit), activated carbon, natural vinegar etc under the scheme "Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC)". The scheme is to encourage and motivate entrepreneurs to set up coconut based industrial units for production of value added products. Under the scheme financial and technical assistance is extended to entrepreneurs for establishing processing units in coconut sector. 25% of the capital cost (subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs per unit) of project is given as back ended subsidy to the units established under TMOC. So far, 215 numbers of such units are established in 9 States and 2 Union Territories covering 15 products. During current financial year (2012-13) an allocation of Rs. 6.35 crores is made under TMOC.