

Title: Need to provide central assistance to the Government of Karnataka to save coconut crops from Eriophyid mite - Laid.

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (HASSAN) : A vast number of coconut trees have been affected by eriophid mite and the future of the farmers in Karnataka is in doldrums. The gravity of the problem is very serious as 78.69 lakh palms are affected and immediate measures for eradication of coconut mite will have to be taken to save the farmers from distress situation.

Karnataka Government has submitted proposals to the Centre with a request to provide assistance of Rs.336.47 crores over a period of 5 years and Rs.37.47 crores for the current year 2000-2001.

I urge upon the Union Government to immediately provide Rs. 37.47 crore as Central assistance to Karnataka for the current year to control the eriophyid mites without any further delay.