

**Title:** Statement regarding price policy for copra for 2001 season – Laid.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri Nitish Kumar, I beg to lay the following statement on the Table of the House:

The Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of milling Copra at Rs.3300 per quintal and that of FAQ variety of Ball Copra at Rs.3550 per quintal for 2001 season. This marks an increase of Rs.50 per quintal of MSP of both milling and ball copra in 2001 over their respective MSPs of the previous season. The increase in MSP is expected to induce the copra growers to invest more and raise the productivity and production of copra.

The National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) would continue to act as the nodal agency to undertake the price support operations for copra.

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MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377, listed for the day may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.