

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5088
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH MARCH, 2018

COCONUT CULTIVATION

5088. SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coconut plantation is not an organized cultivation in some States and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to expand the coconut plantation on a major scale in these States;
- (b) whether there is any proposal with the Government to increase the assistance under the area expansion scheme by the Coconut Development Board and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that coconut growers in many States including Tamil Nadu are in distress situation as they are not even getting Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their produce and there is huge difference between the retail price of coconut and the price actually given to farmers; and
- (d) if so, whether the Government is considering to increase the Minimum Support Price for coconut to protect the interest of the coconut growers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): Yes, in some non-traditional coconut growing states, coconut plantation is not an organized cultivation. Cultivation of coconut is organized in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and the farmers are taking up commercial cultivation. In the State of Kerala, which is the largest producer of coconut in the country, coconut is predominantly cultivated by small and marginal farmers as homestead gardens.

The Coconut Development Board (CDB) is implementing a scheme "Expansion of Area under Coconut" in the States where coconut cultivation is feasible.

CDB is also organizing publicity and extension activities in these States for promoting organized coconut cultivation. CDB has established 10 Demonstration cum Seed Production Farms so far in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala,

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Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Tripura for demonstrating scientific coconut farming practices and to make available quality coconut seedlings to meet the local requirement of farmers for taking up coconut cultivation.

(b): Coconut Development Board proposes to increase the assistance under Area Expansion scheme taking into consideration of the present cost of cultivation. The existing rate of assistance and revised rates proposed is **annexed**.

(c) & (d): The Government has taken the note of situation. In order to protect the farmers from price fall, Government of India declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) for coconut every year. The MSP for Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of 'Million Copra' was increased to Rs.7500/- per quintal for 2018 season from Rs.6500/- per quintal in 2017. The MSP for FAQ of 'Ball Copra' has been increased to Rs.7750/- per quintal for 2018 season from Rs.6785/- per quintal in 2017.

ANNEXURE

Assistance under the scheme “Expansion of area under Coconut”

Area	Existing assistance (25 % of cost)	Proposed revision (40 % of cost)
Normal area	Tall varieties - Rs.6500/ha Hybrid - Rs.6750/ha Dwarf - Rs.7500/ha	Dwarf & Tall -Rs.26000/ha Hybrid -Rs.32000/ha
Hilly and Scheduled area	Tall varieties -Rs.13750/ha Hybrid -Rs.13750/ha Dwarf -Rs.15000/ha	Dwarf & Tall -Rs.32000/ha Hybrid -Rs.36000/ha
