

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1491
ANSWERED ON 01/08/2025

ISSUE PERTAINING TO CONSTITUTION OF ARECANUT BOARD

1491. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) the constraints faced by the Ministry in constituting Arecanut Board on the lines of Coffee Board, Rubber Board, Tea Board, etc.;
- (b) whether Karnataka ranked first in arecanut production in the year 2023-24;
- (c) the details of support measures, including financial assistance, subsidies and research and development, provided by Government for arecanut growers;
- (d) whether arecanut crop is covered under Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) in Karnataka; and
- (e) whether Government has introduced any schemes/training programmes to address challenges faced by arecanut farmers, including price fluctuations, pest and disease outbreaks, and Management Information System (MIS), if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (e) Directorate of Arecanut & Spices Development (DASD), Calicut, a subordinate office under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India is entrusted with the overall development of arecanut. The Central Arecanut and Cocoa Marketing and Processing Cooperative Ltd. (CAMPCO), a multi-state cooperative based in Mangalore, is actively involved in the procurement and marketing of arecanut. Further, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a statutory body under Department of Commerce looks after the export promotion of arecanut, as it is a scheduled product of APEDA.

As per estimates of 2023-24, Karnataka State is the largest producer of arecanut in the country with a production of 10.32 lakh tonnes of arecanut from an area of 6.77 lakh ha, which constitutes 73% of total arecanut production and 71% of total area under arecanut in the country.

(Source: DASD)

Need based support measures and financial assistance are provided under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). In terms of research, the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (ICAR-CPCRI), Kasaragod, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is the primary institution conducting research on arecanut. An exclusive research centre dedicated to arecanut is also functioning at Vittal, Karnataka. Additionally,

State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) in major arecanut-growing states are actively involved in research and extension activities related to the crop. DASD is promoting the technology of multi-species cropping in existing arecanut gardens by establishing frontline demonstration plots and conducting training programmes. The arecanut crop is also covered under Restructured Weather Crop Based Insurance Scheme (RWCBS) scheme in Karnataka.

DASD is promoting the technology of multi-species cropping in existing arecanut gardens by conducting training programmes. The Directorate demonstrates the effect of the new fungicide Mandipropamid in management of fruit rot in selected areas of Kerala, Karnataka and also lays demonstration to popularize the use of EPN (Entomopathogenic Nematode) in management of root grubs in Arecanut.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Govt of India intervenes whenever there is a severe incidence of diseases & suggests remedial measures and provides financial assistance on the request of the State Government. In 2024-25 Ministry of agriculture, DA&FW allocated funds of Rs. 3700.00 lakhs under MIDH scheme for management of Arecanut Leaf Spot disease in Karnataka.

Government of India implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The objective of intervention is to protect the growers in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period. Further, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), a crop insurance scheme provides financial assistance to farmers in India for suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen events.
