

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4900**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2019

**CRISIS FACED BY COCONUT FARMERS**

4900. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that coconut farmers in Kerala are in distress due to decline in market prices of coconut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to procure coconut from farmers through Government agencies of Kerala and determine the support price of coconut; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The prices of agricultural produce are determined by supply and demand conditions in the market on a day-to-day basis. Price of agricultural produce tends to fall after the harvesting season due to increase in market arrival of new crop in a lumpy manner. The Government has fixed the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for copra (milling) and copra (ball) at Rs. 9521/quintal and Rs. 9920/quintal respectively for the calendar year 2019. The wholesale prices of copra are more or less close to the level of MSPs. A statement showing market-wise wholesale prices of copra in Kerala is given at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d): The Government launched Umbrella Scheme "Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan" (PM-AASHA) which provides for a holistic arrangement for assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers /farmers to increase agriculture production and productivity. This umbrella Scheme comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses & oilseeds, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to ensure MSP to the farmers.

The oilseeds producing states have the option to roll out PPSS on pilot basis in district / selected Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) of district involving the participation of private stockist. The pilot district / selected APMC(s) of district will cover one or more crop of oilseeds for which MSP is notified. This is akin to PSS and it involves physical procurement of the notified oilseeds.

The Government of Kerala has submitted proposal for procurement of copra at MSP under Price Support Scheme (PSS) during 2019 season. The said proposal received from Government of Kerala is not in pursuance with the extant PSS guidelines, 2018. Therefore, Government of Kerala have been requested to provide the requisite information for further processing of the proposal, which is still awaited from them.

Annexure Referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4900  
Due for Answer on 23/07/2019

**ANNEXURE**

**Monthly Average Wholesale Prices of Copra in Kerala from January 2019 to July 2019**

**Rs.per quintal**

Centre	Variety	2019						
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY *
Alleppey	FAQ	11850	11250	10150	9950	8900	8950	8850
Alleppey	Sun Dried	11900	11200	10200	10000	8950	9000	8900
Cochin	-	12100	11200	10200	10000	8900	9000	8950
Irinjalakudu	Sun Dried	11323	10575	9853	9798	8673	8735	8673
Kozhikode	Asitis	11700	11000	10500	10000	9000	9200	8900
Kozhikode	Ball	13000	13500	13200	14500	13000	10500	9500
Kozhikode	Milling	11700	11000	10500	10000	9000	9200	8900
Payyannur	Milling	10500	10200	10000	9700	8500	8500	8300
Kollam	Pass	12500	11700	11200	10200	9300	9300	9200

**Source: DES, MOAFW**

Note: \* up to 12th July 2019

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