

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1993
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST AUGUST, 2023

MSP APPROVAL FOR COPRA

1993. SHRI PRAJWAL REVANNA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) approved by the Government for fair average quality Milling copra fixed at Rs. 10860 per quintal and for ball copra at Rs. 11750 which is very less, meagre, unscientific and less than production cost of the copra;
- (b) the action proposed to be taken by the Government towards ensuring better remunerative returns to the coconut growers;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the MSP recommendations made by CACP for copra and increase the MSP to Rs. 20000 per quintal;
- (d) whether the Government is also aware that NAFED, NCCF have stopped procurement of copra, if so, the reasons for the same along with the action proposed to be taken to restore the procurement of copra; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government for the redressal of stem bleeding and bud rotten diseases of the plant?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Government has fixed Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Copra for 2023 Season, on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned. While recommending MSP, CACP considers important factors like overall demand-supply conditions, cost of production, domestic and international prices, inter-crop

price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, the likely effect on the rest of the economy, besides ensuring rational utilization of land, water and other production resources and a minimum of 50 percent as the margin over cost of production

Minimum Support Price (MSP) of milling copra at ₹ 10860/- per quintal and ball copra at ₹ 11750/- per quintal for 2023 season provides a margin of 52 percent for milling copra and 64 percent for ball copra over all-India weighted average cost of production, respectively, conforming to the principle of fixing MSP at a level of one and half times of the cost of production as announced in Union Budget 2018-19.

(d): Government is implementing Price Support Scheme (PSS) under the umbrella scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshhan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) for procurement of copra directly from pre-registered farmers conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms by Central Nodal Agencies through the State level agencies at MSP as and when prices fall below the MSP during the harvesting period. This scheme is implemented at the request of the concerned State Government / Union Territories which agrees to exempt the procured commodities from levy of mandi tax and assist Central Nodal Agencies in logistic arrangements, including gunny bags, working capital for state agencies, creation of revolving fund for PSS operations, etc. as required under the scheme guidelines. The procurement details of Copra under PSS during the last 2 years are given as under:

Copraprocured at MSP under PSS as on 25.07.2023		
PSS Operation	State	Quantity Procured (in MT)
Milling Copra 2022	Tamil Nadu	40593.51
Milling Copra 2022	Kerala	255.85
Ball Copra 2023	Karnataka	47963.4
Milling Copra 2023	Tamil Nadu	53782.88
Milling Copra 2023	Kerala	74.68

(e): Coconut Development Board, a statutory body under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, is implementing schemes viz. "Replanting and rejuvenation of coconut gardens" and "Laying out of Demonstration Plots" for cutting and removal of disease in advanced coconut palms and to demonstrate integrated pest and disease management in coconut. The Board also assists State Governments, State Agricultural/Horticultural Universities, ICAR Research Institutes for taking up development of technologies and demonstration of management of stem bleeding and bud rot in coconut under the scheme "Technology Mission on Coconut". In addition, information on standard protocols developed by various Research and Development Institutions for control of stem bleeding and bud rot diseases are disseminated through various extension tools.
