

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO . 2790
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18TH MARCH, 2025

SETTING-UP OF ARECANUT BOARD IN KARNATAKA

2790 . DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN :

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Karnataka being the largest producer of arecanut in the country cultivated over 5 lakh hectare which contributes more than 50 percent of production, areca plant is being cultivated in coastal, malnad/ semi-malnad and recently in drier and plain areas of the State;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure better price for the producers, regulate import of arecanut to prevent fall of arecanut price and control the fruit rot, yellow leaf disease, root decay of the crop;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up Arecanut Board in Karnataka for processing, marketing, developing, value addition, regulating the price of arecanut on the lines of Makhana Board of Bihar;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of crop specific boards functioning across the country along with their role and responsibilities, Headquarters and regional offices?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): Karnataka ranks first in arecanut production with 10 lakh metric tonnes from an area of 6.8 lakh hectare (ha) out of total production of 14.11 lakhs metric tonnes from area of 9.4 lakh ha in the country as per final estimate 2023-24. The arecanut imports are being restricted in the country through an import duty of 100% and recently revised Minimum Import Price (MIP) of Arecanuts from Rs. 251/kg to Rs.351/kg. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), along with its field formations and Directorate of

Revenue Intelligence (DRI) closely monitors areas prone to illegal arecanut imports and takes action under the Customs Act, 1962. Additionally, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) enforces stringent quality standards before clearing import consignments. Further, State Horticulture Mission (SHM), Karnataka, has been sanctioned additional amount of Rs.37.00 crores (Government of India share) under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for management of diseases in arecanut as per their proposal in addition to regular activities of Annual Action Plan (AAP) for 2024-25 .

(c) & (d): There is no such proposal under consideration, however several Government Agencies like Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod, Kerala with its regional stations at Vittal (Karnataka), Kayamkulam (Kerala) and research centres at Kahikuchi (Assam), Kidu (Karnataka) and Mohitnagar (West Bengal) along with Arecanut Research Centre of Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences at Shivamogga (Karnataka) are involved in the research and development of arecanut sector. Directorate of Arecanut and spices Development (DASD), Calicut under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare implements the frontline demonstration programmes in association with ICAR- CPCRI, to promote improved technologies to increase farmers' income and conducting training programmes under MIDH Scheme. The existing institutional mechanism provide sufficient support for research and development of this crop.

(e): The Details of crop specific boards functioning across the country are given at **Annexure.**

Annexure

S. No.	Name of the Board	Ministry	Mandate/ Roles	Head Quarter	Regional Office
1.	Tea Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	The functions and responsibilities of Tea Board include increasing production and productivity, improving the quality of tea, market promotion, and welfare measures for plantation workers and supporting Research and Development. Collection, collation and dissemination of statistical	Kolkata, West Bengal.	North Eastern Region zonal office at Jorhat in Assam Southern Region at zonal office at Coonoor in Tamil Nadu Other regional office Guwahati, New Delhi, Siliguri, Mumbai, Kochi Coimbatore, Silchar, Kottayam, Agartala, Tezpur, Kurseong, Palampur, Jalpaiguri, Dibrugarh, Gudalur, Kumily and Itanagar
2.	Coffee Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	The Board is mainly focusing its activities in the areas of research, extension, development, market intelligence, external & internal promotion and welfare measures.	Bangalore, Karnataka.	The Board has a Central Coffee Research Institute at Balehonnur (Karnataka) with a Sub-Station at Chettalli and Regional Coffee Research Stations at Chundale, Thandigudi, Narasipatnam and Diphu, apart from the extension units located in coffee growing regions of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and North Eastern Region.
3.	Rubber Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	The Board is responsible for the development of the rubber industry in the country by	Kottayam, Kerala	Marthandom, Thiruvananthapuram, Nedumangad, Punalur, Kottarakkara, Adoor,

			<p>way of assisting and encouraging research, development, extension and training activities related to rubber. It also maintains statistical data of rubber, takes steps to promote marketing of rubber and undertake labour welfare activities.</p>		<p>Pathanamthitta, Changanacherry, Kanjirappally, Pala, Erattupetta, Thodupuzha, Muvattupuzha, Thrissur, Palakkad, Mannarkkad, Nilambur, Manjeri, Kozhikode, Thalassery, Taliparamba, Sreekantapuram, Kanhangad, Kasaragod, Mangalore, Puttur, Kundapura, Shivamogga, Sawantawady, Baripada, Rampachodavaram, Agartala, Udaipur, Dharmanagar, Ambassa, Bishramganj, Santir Bazar, Guwahati, Agia, Nagaon, Kajalgaon, Jorhat, Silchar, Dimapur, Tura and Itanagar</p>
4.	Spices Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	<p>The primary function of the Board includes development of small and large cardamom, promotion, development, regulation of export of spices and control on quality of spices for export. The Spices Board also undertakes research activities on cardamom</p>	Kochi, Kerala	<p>Bangalore, Theni, Thiruvallur, Gangtok, Guntur, Guwahati, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, Hassan, Tuticorin and Warangal</p>

			(small & large) under Indian Cardamom Research Institute.		
5.	Tobacco Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	Responsible for the development of the tobacco industry. While the primary function of the Board is export promotion of all varieties of tobacco and its allied products, its functions extend to production, distribution (for domestic consumption and exports) and regulation of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco.	Guntur, Andhra Pradesh	Ongole, Rajamahendravaram, Mysuru and Periyapatna
6.	National Turmeric Board	Ministry of Commerce & Industry.	Promote the cultivation, production, processing, quality assurance and marketing of turmeric, thereby enhancing the income of turmeric farmers.	Nizamabad, Telangana	--
7.	Coconut Development Board	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare	A statutory body established by the Government of India for the integrated development of coconut production and utilization in the country with focus on productivity increase and product diversification.	Kochi, Kerala	Bengaluru, Guwahati, Coimbatore and Patna

8.	National Horticulture Board (NHB),	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare	To develop production clusters/hubs for integrated Hi-tech commercial horticulture, development of Post-harvest and cold chain infrastructure, ensuring availability of quality planting material and to promote adoption of new technologies/tools/ techniques for Hi-tech commercial horticulture etc.	Gurugram, Haryana	Vijayawada, Guwahati, Patna, Chandigarh, Raipur, New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Shimla, Jammu, Srinagar, Ranchi, Bangalore, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhopal, Gwalior, Navi Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Gangtok, Chennai, Hyderabad, Baghpat, Lucknow, Varanasi, Dehradun and Kolkata
9.	National Medicinal Plants Board	Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy (Ayush)	To coordinate all matters related to medicinal plants, supporting policies and programs for their conservation, cultivation, trade, and export.	New Delhi	--
