

are provided to fanners for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and improved farm implements. In addition field demonstration on farmers holding including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology.

### **Declining prices of Coconut**

2017. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures to arrest decline in prices of coconut and its products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) furnish the details of copra prices from 1995-96 to 2000-2001;

(d) what are the steps taken by this Government to assist the coconut farmers to come out of economic losses arising from this fall in prices;

(e) whether Government have imported coconuts from Colombo and Phillipines; and

(f) whether Government would reconsider the policy of importing edible oils so as to protect the interest of coconut farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) To protect the interest of the copra growers, the National Agriculture Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) undertook price support operation of copra and as on 07.08.2000 purchased a total quantity of 77329 tonnes of milling copra in the copra growing States. Further purchases are continuing.

(c) The month-end wholesale prices of copra are given in the Statement enclosed. (*See below*).

[10 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government to assist the coconut farmers:

(i) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) for copra have been raised as under:

| <i>(Rs./Quintal)</i> |      |      |
|----------------------|------|------|
| Commodity            | 1995 | 2000 |
| Copra Milling        | 2500 | 3250 |
| Copra Ball           | 2725 | 3500 |

(ii) NAFED continues to act as a central nodal agency for undertaking price support operation of copra.

(hi) copra has been treated as an oil seed.

(iv) Under the present EXIM Policy, copra is in restricted list and attracts a basic import duty of 35% Coconut oil is canalized through State Trading Corporation (STC) and Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation (HVOC).

(v) Coconut oil has been recognised as an edible oil. The standards of quality have been laid down under PFA and Rules thereunder and Coconut oil has been allowed to be used in the manufacture of vanaspati.

(e) There have been no imports of coconut from Colombo and Phillipines during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto May, 2000).

(f) In a span of six months the Government has already raised the duty on edible oils twice—first upward revision on 30th December, 1999 and the second upward revision on 12th June, 2000. The duty on Crude edible oil, now is 27.5% (basic + surcharge) while duty on refined oil is 44.04% (basic - I- surcharge + SAD). For other oils not specified for example, coconut oil, the total duty is 50.8% (basic + SAD).

**Statement**  
**Month End Wholesale Prices of Copra**

(Rs. per quintal)

| Centre                 | Variety  | Year | Jan. | Feb. | March | April | May  | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Ami .<br>Avg . |
|------------------------|----------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|----------------|
| Kerala Cochin          | Milpass  | 1996 | 2795 | 2940 | 2600  | 2575  | 2550 | 2545 | 2640 | 2610 | 2920  | 3380 | 3865 | NA   | 2856           |
|                        |          | 1997 | 4215 | 4045 | 3190  | 3445  | 2960 | 3285 | 3215 | 3250 | 3210  | 3310 | 3450 | 3510 | 3424           |
|                        |          | 1998 | 3190 | 2965 | 2725  | 2725  | 2570 | 2855 | 2685 | 2800 | 2900  | 3220 | NA   | NA   | 2864           |
|                        |          | 1999 | NA   | NA   | NA    | NA    | NA   | NA   | 3380 | 3550 | 3585  | 3855 | 3805 | 3697 | 3645           |
|                        |          | 2000 | 3090 | 2880 | 2430  | 2475  | 2370 | 2295 |      |      |       |      |      |      |                |
| Kozhikode              | Dillpass | 1996 | 2850 | 2850 | 2700  | 2550  | 2650 | 2700 | 2750 | 2900 | 3500  | 3500 | 3850 | 4450 | 3104           |
|                        |          | 1997 | 4700 | 4300 | 3350  | 3700  | 3400 | 3300 | 3500 | 3400 | 3350  | 3500 | 3900 | 3700 | 3675           |
|                        |          | 1998 | 3400 | 3300 | 2900  | 3000  | 2800 | 2950 | 2850 | 3000 | 3200  | 3300 | 3450 | 3600 | 3146           |
|                        |          | 1999 | 3500 | 3600 | 3850  | 3300  | 3600 | 3600 | 3800 | 4150 | 4000  | 4150 | 4100 | 3850 | 3833           |
|                        |          | 2000 | 3400 | 3100 | 2900  | 2700  | 2700 | 2150 |      |      |       |      |      |      |                |
| Kerala Alleppey        | Milling  | 1996 | 2840 | 2820 | 2620  | 2560  | 2550 | 2600 | 2620 | 2840 | 3280  | 3350 | 4020 | 4370 | 3056           |
|                        |          | 1997 | 4400 | 4260 | 3430  | 3550  | 3120 | 3550 | 3350 | 3280 | 3300  | 3250 | 3980 | 3900 | 3614           |
|                        |          | 1998 | 3600 | 2880 | 2820  | 3050  | 2760 | 3150 | 3000 | 3050 | 3325  | 3500 | 3400 | 3600 | 3178           |
|                        |          | 1999 | 3550 | 3550 | 3850  | 3960  | 3740 | 3825 | 3900 | 4100 | 4150  | 4450 | 4500 | 3950 | 3960           |
|                        |          | 2000 | 3350 | 3150 | 2750  | 2800  | 2500 | 2300 |      |      |       |      |      |      |                |
| Quilon                 |          | 1996 | NA   | NA   | NA    | 2600  | 2530 | 2620 | 2615 | 2900 | 3400  | 3420 | 4000 | 4400 | 3165           |
|                        |          | 1997 | 4400 | 4200 | 3320  | 3500  | 3050 | 3300 | 3330 | 3360 | 3350  | 3450 | 3750 | 3720 | 3561           |
|                        |          | 1998 | 3350 | 2850 | 2800  | 2620  | 2900 | 2810 | 2950 | 2975 | 3200  | 3200 | 3230 | 3550 | 3036           |
|                        |          | 1999 | 3500 | 3500 | 3700  | 3800  | 3450 | 3600 | 3700 | 4050 | 3900  | 4150 | 4050 | 3840 | 3770           |
|                        |          | 2000 | 3000 | 3000 | 2700  | 2650  | 2350 | 2150 |      |      |       |      |      |      |                |
| Kernataka<br>Aresekere | Ball     | 1996 | 3100 | 2950 | 2950  | 2875  | 2900 | 2875 | 2850 | 3010 | 4150  | 4100 | 4500 | 4600 | 3405           |
|                        |          | 1997 | 4740 | 5100 | 4200  | 4600  | 5000 | 5050 | 5300 | 5500 | 5400  | 5020 | 5100 | 5300 | 5026           |
|                        |          | 1998 | 5550 | 5000 | 5000  | NA    | 4450 | 4200 | 4150 | 3875 | NA    | 3850 | NA   | 4000 | 4453           |
|                        |          | 1999 | 4250 | 4000 | 4100  | 3850  | 3750 | 3650 | 3550 | 3650 | 3575  | 4300 | 4500 | 4500 | 3973           |
|                        |          | 2000 | 4200 | 4100 | 3800  | 4000  | 3700 | 3600 |      |      |       |      |      |      |                |