

Coconut Oil (as on 4.12.12) have declined by 24.66% and 26.83% respectively during the last one year.

With a view to provide remunerative prices to the growers of agricultural commodities, the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), announces the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for various notified agricultural commodities including Copra.

The Government of India has fixed Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of Milling Copra at Rs. 5100/- per quintal and for FAQ of Ball Copra at Rs. 5350/- per quintal for 2012 season.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) is in the nature of a minimum guaranteed price for the farmers offered by the Government for their produce, in case the market prices fall below that level. If the market offers higher price than the MSP, the farmers are free to sell their produce at the market price.

(c) At present subsidy of Rs. 15/- kg is provided to imported edible oils (Refined Palmolein/Soyabean oils only) under the Scheme for distribution of subsidized imported edible oils. Government is not considering the proposal for providing subsidy on indigenous edible oils including Coconut oil.

(d) No, Sir. However, MSP has been fixed by Government of India for dehusked matured coconut with water @ Rs. 1400 per quintal for 2012 season.

(e) Apart from Price Support Scheme, the Government of India has been implementing various schemes for the integrated development of coconut. Emphasis has been given to the production and distribution of quality planting materials including hybrid varieties of coconut seedlings.

Government has also been implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC)" *w.e.f.* 2001-02 to give greater emphasis to "product diversification and by-product utilization" by value addition.

Cost of production of paddy

‡2362. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that the per quintal cost of paddy incurred by farmers right from sowing to harvesting is more than ₹ 1750/-;
- (b) whether Central Government has assessed the expenditure on paddy crops a mere ₹ 350/- per quintal and whether it is possible;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the price of fertilizers and pesticides has increased three to four times resulting in increase in the cost of paddy crops; and
- (d) whether Government will consider to increase the minimum support price of paddy from ₹ 1250/- to ₹ 2000/- per quintal making it more than the cost incurred by farmers on paddy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The Weighted Average Cost of Production of Paddy 2012-13 has been estimated at Rs. 1152 per quintal by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) as against Rs.888 per quintal in 2011-12.

(c) and (d) The price of fertilizers and pesticides have increased by 11.6 per cent and 6.8 per cent respectively during October, 2012 over October, 2011 in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI).

While framing price policy for kharif crops including paddy for 2012-13 season, the CACP has taken into account relevant factors, including cost of production.

Difficulties faced by farmers in selling their produce

2363. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of farmers are not getting MSP for their produce;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to implement Swaminathan Commission recommendation for fixing MSP;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that in some States farmers are facing difficulties in selling their produce like paddy and jute; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?