

This Department has constituted a Technical Support Unit (TSU) to estimate the loss cost and likely actuarial premium and this is provided to desirous State Governments for finalization of premium rates etc. Further, the close monitoring of implementation of the scheme is being done by the both Central and State Governments.

Extension of MSP to Coconut and Coconut Oil

1453. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central funds disbursed to Coconut Development Board, Kerala for the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government may extend MSP to both coconut and coconut oil which would benefit the growers in distress across the country; and

(c) the details of the import of coconut through multiple Free Trade Agreements during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The year-wise Central funds released to Coconut Development Board, Kerala for the last five years, is as under:-

Year	Funds released (₹ in crore)
2015-16	161.75
2016-17	128.69
2017-18	196.00
2018-19	264.40*
2019-20	151.54

* Including ₹82.00 crore additional amount released towards special assistance in connection with Gaja cyclone in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 22 mandated agricultural crops including Copra on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACAP), views of State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments concerned and other relevant factors. In addition, MSPs for de-husked coconut are fixed on the basis of MSP of copra. There is no proposal under consideration for the inclusion of coconut oil under MSP scheme.

(c) As per import data released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata, coconut has not been imported in to the country during the last five years.

Cold storage and warehousing infrastructure in Maharashtra

1454. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to strengthen cold storage and warehousing infrastructure facilities in Marathwada region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount of funds sanctioned for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is provided for setting up of cold storages throughout the country including Maharashtra.

Schemes under which financial assistance is provided for setting up of cold storages in the country are as follows:-

- (i) **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH):** Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including setting up of cold storages. The component is demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% (for general areas) and 50% (for hilly and scheduled areas) of eligible capital cost of the project for both public and private sector enterprises.

Government of Maharashtra reported that at present there are 91145 MT capacity have been created through 25 number of cold storages with financial assistance of ₹ 2405.39 lakh under MIDH in Marathawada region of Maharashtra.