

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1292
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH DECEMBER, 2024

COCOA PRODUCTION

1292. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Eluru district in Andhra Pradesh is leader in producing cocoa;
- (b) if so, the details of cocoa production in the country during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is huge fluctuation in the cocoa prices in the international market which impact cocoa growers;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that cocoa price this year has fallen to ₹500 per kg as compared to ₹1,050 per kg last year; and
- (e) if so, the manner in which Government is planning to help cocoa farmers in the country, particularly Eluru district in Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): Eluru and East Godavari districts are the prominent cocoa growing districts in Andhra Pradesh, which is the largest cocoa producing State in the Country. State-wise area and production of Cocoa in the Country for the last 5 years is given at Annexure-1.

(c) & (d): As per the price statistics reported by the International Cocoa Organisation (ICO), international prices of Cocoa beans have reported a considerable increase in the year 2023-24 and it continues to do so on account of the production shortage due to climatic vagaries in major contributors in global cocoa production such as West African Countries. The Cocoa prices are likely to remain elevated for some more time. The domestic Cocoa prices mainly depend on the international prices. During the last two decades, the Cocoa prices in the country had become stable and remunerative (Rs.200-250/Kg.). However, they rose to a peak of

Rs.1000/Kg in April 2024. Otherwise, the domestic cocoa prices in the recent months are in the range of Rs.500-950/Kg.

(e): The Government has recognized the vast scope for farmers to introduce cocoa crop in potential areas to avail benefits of the increasing demand both domestically and internationally. Coconut, areca nut, oil palm and rubber plantations offer tremendous scope for intercropping with Cocoa.

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic growth of the horticulture sector including cocoa in Andhra Pradesh. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH scheme.

Under MIDH, for area expansion of plantation crops including cashew and cocoa, assistance is provided @ 40% of the maximum cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material, cost of drip system, Integrated Nutrient Management/ Integrated Pest Management (INM/IPM), canopy management etc. in 3 instalments in 60:20:20 ratio. In case of North-East (NE) and Himalayan states, Tribal Sub- Plan (TSP) areas, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance is @50% of cost.

The Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development (DCCD) under DA&FW is promoting cocoa cultivation in four southern States including Andhra Pradesh by facilitating establishment of nurseries for production of quality planting materials, technology transfer, capacity building, awareness through seminars and fairs, etc. through MIDH. The main objective of this Directorate is to enhance the production and productivity of cashew and cocoa in the country in order to meet the demand of domestic industries for internal consumption and export.

Annexure to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1292 regarding “Cocoa Production” due for answer on 06.12.2024

Year-wise and State-wise Area & Production of Cocoa for the last 5 Years

Area: in 000 Ha,

Production: in 000 MT

| State/UTs | 2019-20 | | 2020-21 | | 2021-22 | | 2022-23 | | 2023-24 (Third Adv. Est.) | |
|-----------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | Area | Production | Area | Production | Area | Production | Area | Production | Area | Production |
| Andhra Pradesh | 36.50 | 10.40 | 39.70 | 10.90 | 41.87 | 11.45 | 43.90 | 12.14 | 44.99 | 12.38 |
| Karnataka | 14.10 | 3.50 | 14.20 | 3.70 | 14.25 | 3.91 | 14.34 | 4.06 | 14.41 | 4.14 |
| Kerala | 16.90 | 9.20 | 17.40 | 9.60 | 17.77 | 10.13 | 18.46 | 10.54 | 18.66 | 10.75 |
| Tamil Nadu | 30.10 | 2.70 | 32.10 | 2.80 | 32.08 | 2.94 | 32.58 | 3.06 | 32.98 | 3.12 |
| All-India Total | 97.60 | 25.80 | 103.40 | 27.00 | 105.98 | 28.43 | 109.29 | 29.79 | 111.04 | 30.39 |
