

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 511
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2025

ISSUES FACED BY FARMERS IN TAMIL NADU

511. SHRI P. WILSON:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to address concerns expressed by coconut farmers in Tamil Nadu with regard to price disparities and limited value-addition;
- (b) the details of steps taken to enhance domestic and international market linkages for value-added coconut products in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of complaints received from farmers of Tamil Nadu regarding delayed or denied claim under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and steps taken for timely distribution of claims; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that insurance companies reduced their exposure to crop insurance under PMFBY, if so, the steps taken to address the issue and increase coverage?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The Government of India announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for milling copra and ball copra every year, in order to ensure fair and remunerative prices to the coconut farmers. Whenever prices for copra fall below declared MSP, the procurement under the Price Support scheme at the MSP is undertaken by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED). During season 2023 and 2024, Rs.1164.32 crores was extended as price support to the coconut farmers in Tamil Nadu through MSP procurement.

In order to facilitate the farmers in aggregation of coconuts and undertake value addition and processing, Coconut Development Board has registered 23 Coconut Producer Companies in Tamil Nadu.

The Board extends support for the establishing processing units for value added products from coconut through the scheme Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC). Financial assistance is extended on project basis @ 25% of the project cost, as credit linked

back-ended subsidy. The Board has facilitated 146 coconut processing units in Tamil Nadu that manufacture various value added products.

(b): The Coconut Development Board facilitates participation of manufacturers of coconut oil in national and international exhibitions, trade fairs etc. From 2019-20 to 2024-25 (till January 2025), around 247 manufacturers were facilitated to participate in 24 national trade fairs and 87 manufacturers in international fairs for market development of coconut products. Of these, 63 manufacturers firms participating in national level fairs and 48 in international fairs were from in Tamil Nadu.

(c): Under the PMFBY, all the major work relating to the assessment of crop yield/crop loss for calculation of admissible claims are being performed by the concerned State Government or Joint Committee of State Government officials and concerned insurance company. Details of complaint received are not maintained centrally. Most of the complaints have been suitably addressed as per the Grievance Redressal Committee at district and state level.

(d): No, under the PMFBY scheme insurance companies have not reduced their exposure and currently 20 General Insurance companies are empanelled (5 PSU and 15 Private Insurers) with Govt. of India for implementing the flagship scheme. At present, 15 general insurance companies are actively participating and implementing the scheme. The scheme has recorded an all time high coverage for insuring nearly 4 crore farmers across the nation and insuring over 600 lakh hectares in 2023-24.
