

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2841
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT OF COCONUT
A.K. PREMAJAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the proposals made by the Coconut Development Board to improve the productivity of Coconut in its approach to Tenth Plan;
- (b) whether any such proposals have been submitted by the Government of Kerala to the Union Government; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIHUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): During X Plan, Coconut Development Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India including Technology Mission on Coconut, which includes following programmes for increasing production and productivity of coconuts:

(i) Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement:

Management of disease affected palms through cutting and removal of disease advanced palms with a subsidy @Rs.250/- per palm;
Laying of demonstration plots with an assistance of Rs.35,000 per ha. for promotion of technologies;
Aid to organic manure units @Rs.20,000 per unit for promoting use of organic manures.

(ii) Production and distribution of planting material;

(iii) Expansion of area under coconut; and

(iv) Projects on technology development, adoption and demonstration for management of pest and diseases under Technology Mission on Coconut.

(b) & (c): Planning Commission has received a 'Project for removal of root (wilt) affected coconut trees and enhancement of productivity' from Government of Kerala on 29.7.2003. The total cost of the project is Rs.231.64 crores for a period of 8 years. Of this, Rs.113.80 crores is for the Xth Plan and Rs. 117.84 crores for the XI Plan. The project activities include assistance for cutting and removal of 59.14 lakh disease advanced coconut palms; supply of 59.14 lakh disease tolerant good quality coconut seedlings for replanting; and scientific management of replanted seedlings for first 3 years of planting with assistance for critical production inputs like organic manures, fertilizers and essential agronomic practices. Role of credit institutions and other supporting agencies and farmers training have also been envisaged. The project is under examination by the Planning Commission in consultation with concerned departments and research institutes.