

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2748
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005
PROBLEMS FACED BY COCONUT AND ARECANUT FARMERS
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coconut and Arecanut farmers have been facing serious problems due to fall in price; and
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government to give fair price for these agricultural products to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Wholesale prices of Milling and Ball Copra and Arecanut have shown decreasing trend in the recent years. As a result the income realization by the farmers has been adversely affected.

(b): As a measure to avoid financial losses to farmers in the event of market prices falling below MSP, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), as the central nodal agency to undertake Price Support Operations, enters into market to purchase the Produce. NAFED has purchased a quantity of 2084 MTs of milling copra in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and A & N Islands in 2005 season at the MSP rate of Rs.3570/- per quintal.

Arecanut is covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on a specific request being received from the State Governments in the event of fall in prices to unduly low level. No such request has been received from the concerned State Governments this year.