

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:344  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006  
PRODUCTION OF COCONUT  
Thomas Shri P.C.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether certain new technologies to increase production of coconut have been developed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government through Coconut Development Board or through other agencies has taken any steps to increase the productivity and production of coconut; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 344 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21ST AUGUST, 2006.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed following new technologies to increase production of coconut:

(i) Three new varieties, namely, Laccadiv Ordinary, Philippines Ordinary and Chowghat Orange dwarf and three high yielding coconut hybrids namely, Chandrasankara, Chandralaksha and Kerasankara have been released for cultivation in view of their improved production potential;

(ii) Appropriate drip irrigation technique for managing the coconut palms during summer months has been evolved for cost-effective irrigation and fertigation.

(iii) Evolved moisture conservation methods by mulching, growing cover crops and green manure crops which will improve the production of coconut.

(iv) The technology for vermicomposting of coconut palm waste has been developed for balanced nutrition of coconut palms.

(v) Standardised coconut based cropping system with compatible inter crops and mixed farming with fodder crops for enhancing the income from coconut gardens.

(vi) Developed integrated approach for management of root-wilt disease of coconut with the balanced application of organic manure and inorganic fertilizers coupled with growing of green manure intercrops.

(vii) Better management practices for controlling stem bleeding, bud rot disease of coconut and Eriophyid mite have been evolved for improving the productivity of coconut. Further, an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) method is recommended for controlling black-headed caterpillar with efficient management of infested gardens through cultural practices and use of balanced pesticide application along with the use of bio-parasites.

Integrated Water Management (IWM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management with improved technology for coconut gardens have been developed for enhancing the production and income of coconut gardens.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The Coconut Development Board (CDB) is implementing various programmes for expansion of area under coconut, management of diseases affected palms and improvement of productivity by providing financial assistance for production of planting materials, setting up of organic manure units and laying out of demonstration plots. Besides, under the scheme for 'Technology Mission on Coconut', the Board is providing financial assistance for improving productivity of coconut through the management of pests and

diseases on project basis. The Coconut Development Board has spent Rs.110.40 crores during last four years of the X Five Year Plan on coconut development programmes and a provision of Rs.40.00 crores is made during 2006-07.