

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:710
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
COCONUT PRODUCTION IN LAKSHADWEEP
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any schemes for the welfare of farmers engaged in coconut cultivation, coconut climbing and coconut processing in Lakshadweep;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether organic certification has been provided for the coconut farms in Lakshadweep;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that this certification would help boost sales of the coconut that are organically produced, contributing greatly to the economy of the Island; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Coconut Development Board (CDB) has been implementing the following schemes for the welfare of farmers community in Lakshadweep:

Coconut Cultivation

"Integrated Farming for Productivity Improvement" to promote adoption of scientific coconut cultivation by giving assistance for laying out of demonstration plots and establishment of organic manure units.

"Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme" for protecting coconut cultivation from natural calamities. The scheme is covering all healthy nuts bearing palm in the age group of 4-60 years. Premium is borne by the CDB, State Governments and farmers by 50%, 25% & 25% respectively.

Coconut Climbing

"Friends of Coconut Trees" to develop special skill and confidence in coconut palm climbing and plant protection activities. 110 trainees from Lakshadweep have been successfully trained.

Coconut Processing

"Technology Mission on Coconut" is to extend support to entrepreneurs for setting up of coconut based industry. Back ended credit capital subsidy limited to 25% of the total cost not exceeding Rs.50 Lakhs for individual entrepreneurs is provided by CDB.

(c): No, Madam. However, process for certification of organic farms is in progress and Department of Agriculture, Lakshadweep Administration has already remitted required fee to the certifying agency.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Certification would help boost export of coconut and coconut products from Lakshadweep to European Economic Countries including USA.