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Title: Need to introduce Price Subsidy Scheme for coconut and other edible oils in the country.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (THRISSUR): Kerala is not only a major coconut farming state in India but also a major coconut oil producer and consumer state. The earning of coconut farmers largely influences agricultural economy of Kerala. The coconut farmers are not able to meet their livelihood due to severe price fall of coconut and coconut products. The Government of India is providing subsidy to palm oil @ Rs 15/Litre and distributing the same through Public Distribution System. But this subsidy to imported palm oil and denial of this treatment to indigenous coconut oil is working against the interest of coconut farmers and coconut oil consumers. Considering these aspects, Government of India has been requested to extend the subsidy assistance to coconut oil at par with Palm oil.

The Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture has given an assurance in the House, in reply to a question that indigenous oil, including coconut oil will be given subsidy at par with imported Palm oil.

I would request the Hon'ble Minister and the Government to take immediate steps to introduce the price subsidy scheme to coconut oil and other edible oils produced in the country.