

Most Immediate

F.No.18-1/2022-CC-ES
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Directorate of Economics & Statistics
(Commercial Crops Division)

449-A, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Date: 30th December, 2022

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Price Policy for Copra for 2023 season – Announcement of Minimum Support Price for Copra.

The Government of India has approved the Price Policy for Copra for 2023 season and the following decisions have been taken:

- i. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of Milling copra and Ball copra has been fixed at ₹ 10860/- per quintal and ₹ 11750/- per quintal respectively, for 2023 season.
 - ii. Based on the MSP of FAQ variety of milling copra, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare will fix the MSP of mature de-husked coconut for 2023 season.
 - iii. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF) will be the Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs) for procurement of Copra and De-Husked Coconut under Price Support Scheme (PSS). Accordingly, these agencies will suitably engage State agencies for procurement operations.
2. In this connection, concerned Ministries/Departments, State Governments and other agencies are requested to take appropriate action on the above decisions and non-price recommendations (Annexure I) under intimation to this office.


(Promodita Sathish)
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Tele: 23382540


For information and necessary action:

1. **Joint Secretary (Horticulture),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
2. **Joint Secretary (Investment & Price Support),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
3. **Adviser (Trade),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi**
4. **Joint Secretary (Marketing),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
5. **Joint Secretary (Crops),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
6. **Joint Secretary (M &T),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
7. **Joint Secretary (Credit),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
8. **Joint Secretary (Oilseeds),
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**
9. **Director General, ICAR,
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Copy for information and necessary action:

1. **Secretary, Department of Expenditure,
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129-A, North Block, New Delhi-110001**
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3. **Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution,
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001**
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Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
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5. **Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries,
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6. **Secretary, Department of Commerce,
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Room No. 426, Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi-110007**
7. **CEO, NITI Aayog
NITI Bhawan, New Delhi-110001**
8. **Joint Secretary,
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9. **Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat
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Copy for information and necessary action:

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Secretariat, Chennai -600 009**
2. **Chief Secretary,
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3. **Chief Secretary,
Government of Karnataka,
Room No. 320, IIIrd Floor, Vidhan Soudha,
Bangalore – 560001**
4. **Chief Secretary,
Government of Andhra Pradesh,
1st Block, 1st Floor, Interim Government Complex
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5. **Chief Secretary,
UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands,
Secretariat, Port Blair – 744101**
6. **Administrator,
UT of Lakshadweep,
Kavaratti-682555**


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Copy for Information to:

1. *Sr. PPS to Secretary (DA&FW), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi*
2. *PPS to Principal Adviser, DA&FW, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi*
3. *PS to Sr. ESA, DES, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi*
4. *Adviser (FE), DES, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.*
5. *Adviser (Coord.), DES, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi*
6. *Technical Director, National Informatics Centre, 341, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi -
with request to upload the notification on the site of DES and DA&FW.*


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Non-Price Recommendations Made by the CACP in Report on Price Policy for Copra for 2023 Season

S.N o	Recommendations
1	Old and senile palms, pests and diseases, poor agronomical and management practices, traditional coconut varieties are major contributors to low productivity of coconut. More than 95 percent of coconut farmers are resource-poor smallholders and the present yield levels are much below the potential. Thus, the Commission recommends that special emphasis should be placed on adoption of high yielding varieties suitable for various agro-climatic conditions, quality planting material, integrated management of pests and diseases, and replanting of senile palms to improve yield.
2	Coconut Development board (CDB) is implementing the Replanting & Rejuvenation Programme with the stated objective of increasing quality and quantity of coconut by replacing old, senile and unproductive and disease advanced palms with quality seedlings and rejuvenation of the existing plantations through integrated management practices. The Commission recommends that premier coconut seedlings be made available to farmers in a timely manner across all coconut producing states and the programme should be up scaled to cover more farmers.
3	The Commission has noted several laudable initiatives taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (ICAR-CPCRI) and State Governments which are aimed at improvement of coconut yield. The Commission reiterates its earlier recommendation that the research institutes should focus on developing quality seeds and establish seed gardens for quality planting materials with desirable commercial traits.
4	Coconut production in India is affected by deadly persistent contagious pests and plant diseases causing significant damage to the orchards. The commission recommends that strategies against emerging coconut pests and diseases should be developed and 'Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM)' approach be promoted as an effective means of combating pests and disease that adversely affect coconut plantations and yield. Further, the Commission recommends popularizing intercropping

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S.No	Recommendations
	as a possible alternative that can help to cope-up with pests and diseases and also securing farmers' income.
5	The Coconut-Bases Integrated Farming System (CBIFS), is a practical solution for making coconut farming a viable, long-term and lucrative business. Banana, pepper, peanut, and cinnamon are among the crops that can be cultivated successfully as intercrops with coconut in most of the coconut growing States/regions. Additionally, coconut cultivation can be complemented with small-medium size dairy, poultry, and goat enterprise. Therefore, concerted efforts, strong incentive mechanism and adequate demonstrations are required to help farmers become aware of the potential advantages of mixed farming and intercropping with coconuts and adopt intercropping.
6	Scarcity of labour and rising wages are adversely affecting coconut farming operations across major States. In addition, there are significant occupational hazards associated with the profession of climbing tall coconut palm trees. The Coconut Development Board has introduced a training programme called, ' <i>Friends of Coconut Tree</i> ' and an insurance scheme known as the, ' <i>Kera Suraksha Insurance Scheme</i> '. Further, a Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) for agricultural implements and machinery has also been established at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kasargod for providing technical support and training to the farmers. The Commission recommends that similar initiatives should be undertaken by other KVKs in major coconut producing States to develop cost effective and user-friendly machine/technology especially for harvesting nuts, which could be made available to farmers on rent through Custom Hiring Centres.
7	The Commission recommends that certain features of the Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme such as the premium rate, sum insured and risk coverage need to be reworked in order to make the scheme more relevant for the coconut farmer. Moreover, concerned State Governments, agriculture/horticulture departments along with farmers/farmers' organizations need to come up with effective awareness and publicity campaigns which will help popularize the scheme amongst the farming

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S.N o	Recommendations
	community and help ensure maximum outreach. The Commission also recommends involving more insurance companies for effective implementation of this scheme.
8	The Commission recommends that Local Self Government Institutions should help in coordinating integrated farming systems through convergence of various schemes and programmes. This entails production and distribution of high-quality coconut seedlings, promoting soil and water conservation, managing soil health, irrigation and water use, implementing integrated pest and disease management interventions, planning extension activities, etc.
9	About 70 percent of the total coconut production is for domestic consumption in most producing countries. Demand for semi-processed and processed products is continually increasing as a result of changing dietary habits and rising income levels. The Commission recommends that State Governments should support entrepreneurs by setting up coconut based industrial parks in partnership with research institutions. This will facilitate organized processing of value-added products such as tender nut, coconut water, coconut wood, toddy, neera, gur, sugar, vinegar, coconut boli, coconut honey, coco sauce, etc. The Commission further recommends that India should concentrate on production of value-added coconut products like activated carbon, desiccated coconut, coconut milk/cream, long shelf-life coconut gratings, coconut sugar/jaggery, coconut vinegar, etc., which are likely to witness increase in demand in domestic and international markets in the coming years.
10.	The Coconut Development Board (CDB) has been promoting formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to address the challenges being faced by smallholder producers. Such groups have enormous potential to reduce risks, implement best practices, and ensure remunerative price through improved marketing, better bargaining, and value-addition. Hence, the Commission recommends strengthening of this program with active cooperation of all stakeholders by organizing regional conferences, meetings and training programmes with experts in coconut value-addition, marketing and exports.

Non-Price Recommendations Made by the CACP in Report on Price Policy for Copra for 2023 Season

S.No	Recommendations
11.	To enable small and marginal coconut growers to benefit from Price Support Scheme (PSS), the Commission recommends that more collection centres be established at the panchayat /village level. In order to benefit from the Price Support Scheme, farmer collectives should have infrastructure facilities for conversion of coconut into copra and storage. Since coconut is a perennial crop and seasonal variations in production and market arrivals are not very large, the Commission recommends that instead of limiting procurement activities to a six-month window, procurement may be carried out any time when market prices fall below the MSP. This is crucial to increase efficiency of procurement and broaden its scope.
12.	Coconut oil competes with other vegetable oils like palm oil, palm kernel oil, soybean oil, etc., and its relative importance has been declining due to high degree of substitution among vegetable oils and availability of cheaper substitutes. To boost the domestic production of edible oils including coconut oil, the Commission recommends that Government should maintain the import duty structure on edible oils, especially palm oil and its fractions, at appropriate level linked to world prices. There is also a need to promote exports of virgin coconut oil and its value-added products, which have great potential and demand in the developed countries.
