

**SUB: COCONUT IMPORTS IN GOA DESPITE BEING NOTIFIED AS A
STATE TREE**

**Starred LAQ No. 002A tabled by Shri. Vijai Sardesai, M.L.A. Fatorda Constituency,
to be answered on 08-08-2025**

QUESTION

Will the Minister for Agriculture
be pleased to state:

- a) Whether the Government is aware that despite the coconut palm being notified as the State Tree of Goa, the state continues to import large quantity of coconuts from other states or countries; if so, provide the annual figures of coconut imports in the last five years along with the reasons for the dependence on imports;
- b) The current status of coconut production in Goa, including the total area under coconut cultivation, annual yield and whether there has been a decline in production or productivity in recent years; if so, the reasons for the same, such as, if ageing plantations, pest attacks, shortage of skilled labour or conversion of agricultural land;

ANSWER

Shri Ravi Naik, Hon'ble Minister for
Agriculture

- a) Yes Sir. The State imports both mature and tender coconuts due to the high influx of tourists and rise in hotels, restaurants in State. The annual figures of coconut imports in the last five years are given at Annexure.
- b) The estimated Area, Average yield and production during the year 2024-25 for Coconut is as is as below:

Crops	Area in ha	Average Yield (Nos)	Production (Million nuts)
Coconut	26807	5625	150.79

c) The steps taken by the Government to address the decline in local coconut production and to support coconut farmers including details of schemes if any, subsidies or incentives provided for replanting, disease control and mechanization of coconut harvesting;

c) The steps taken by the Government to support coconut farmers are as under:

Farmers are provided fertilizer and other planting material under Laying Out of Demonstration Plot of Coconut Development Board.

The subsidies of incentives provided for replanting are as below:

For cutting and removal of all old senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms a subsidy is provided @ Rs.1000/ per palm subject to a maximum of Rs.32,000/ per ha.

For replanting a subsidy of Rs.40/ per seedling subject to a maximum of Rs.4000/ per ha.

For disease control, Red Palm Weevil and Rhinoceros Beetle, Traps and Lures are supplied to farmers 75% subsidy rate.

For Mechanization of coconut harvesting, financial assistance of @ 75% subsidy on the cost or standard cost whichever is less for the procurement of improved coconut harvesting tools such as coconut tree climbing devices, telescopic coconut harvester, power operated harvesting tools.

Coconut pluckers are provided by Goa State Horticulture Corporation Ltd.

Organizes awareness programme at Block Level, Field Day at Taluka Level, Seminars at District Level. demonstration in consultation with ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (CCARI-ICAR, Old-Goa) and other agricultural agencies.

- d) Whether the Government has conducted any assessment on the impact of coconut imports on local farmers and traders including price fluctuations, market competition and the economic viability of coconut farming in Goa; if so, furnish copies of such reports and the action taken to protect the interests of local cultivators; and
- d) No.
- e) The details of all measures undertaken by the Government to promote the cultivation, conservation and marketing of coconut in Goa including awareness campaigns, formation of farmer cooperatives and steps taken to ensure that the State Tree is not reduced to a symbolic status due to neglect or policy lapses?
- e) The details of all measures undertaken by the Government to promote the cultivation, conservation and marketing of coconut in Goa are as below:
- Assistance of Rs.50,000/ is provided per ha for cultivation of coconut area expansion in two installments.
- Assured Price of Rs.15/ per nut is provided to the farmer for coconut.
- Under Kera Suraksha Insurance scheme, 25% premium of coconut climbers is borne by the State Government wherein Rs.7.00 lakhs insurance is provided.
- Organizes Extension Activities such as; Block Level Workshop, Farmers Field Day, Friends of Coconut Tree (FOCT) to train coconut pluckers (padeli), Handicraft Training Programme.
- Coconut is a state tree as such, Government distributing coconut seedling to individual to 40 Member of Legislative Assembly and 03 MP's of Goa State to plant more coconut trees in the State of Goa.
- Coconut traders procured coconut from farmers and process into copra and export outside the State.