

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1036

ANSWERED ON:08.02.2023

Export of Arecanut

Nalin Kumar Kateel

- (a) whether arecanut is imported from countries including Bhutan, Singapore and UAE;
- (b) if so, the details of the total arecanut imported in the country during the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (c) whether there has been an adverse impact of such import on the prices of arecanut in the domestic market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures being taken by the Government to protect the interests of arecanut growers in the country;
- (e) whether it is a fact that many farmers in Arecanut growing States of Karnataka and Kerala are in distress due to widespread Yellow Leaf Disease (YLD) affecting arecanut plants; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in arecanut sector, namely ehabilitation/replanting programme and research studies for identifying measures for control of YLD?

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. Arecanut is imported from some countries including Singapore and UAE. However, there is no import of arecanut from Bhutan in last four years including the current financial year. The details of the arecanut imported into the country during the last three years and the current year, country-wise are given at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): Domestic price of arecanut is continuously increasing from Rs. 19,038/- per Quintal in 2017-18 to Rs. 35,481/- per Quintal in 2021-22 in respect of dry arecanut in Kozhikode market and similar increase in domestic price of chali arecanut has been noticed in Sagar market from Rs. 20,847/- per Quintal in 2017-18 to Rs. 39,019/- per Quintal in 2021-22. Government of India have taken the following measures to discourage the import of arecanut and to protect the interests of arecanut growers in the country:-

(i) Basic Customs Duty on import of arecanut is already at Bound Rate of 100%.

(ii) Further, import of arecanut is prohibited if the Cost, Insurance & Freight (C.I.F.) value is below Rs. 251/- per Kg. Precisely, the Government has imposed the condition of Minimum Import Price (MIP) @ Rs. 251/- per Kg on arecanut to restrict the unabated import and to prevent entry of inferior quality arecanut into domestic market and destabilization of the domestic prices.

(iii) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Bureau of India Standard (BIS) have developed the quality standards to restrict import of low quality arecanut.

(e) & (f): Yes Sir. Government of India have constituted a National Scientific Committee (NSC) to address the issues of farmers affected by Leaf Spot Disease (LSD) and Yellow Leaf Disease (YLD) in arecanut plants in Karnataka and other States.

Annexure-I

Country-wise Import of Arecanut during last three F.Ys and current F.Y. 2022-23 (Till November, 2022)

(QTY. in MT & VAL. in Million USD)

ITCHSDescriptionCOUNTRY2019-20202020-212021-222022-23

(Till NOV., 2022)

QTYVALQTYVALQTYVALQTYVAL

08028010WHOLECANADA0.630.00 000000
INDONESIA839.003.04897.001.931184.202.70966.032.26
MALDIVES 0000002.600.02
MYANMAR 001590.005.861390.694.806954.5124.11
SINGAPORE 00 0027.000.14 00
SRI LANKA DSR54.000.20244.000.911479.395.952482.008.80
TANZANIA REP 00 00 0018.000.06
U ARAB EMTS 00 0027.000.04 00
VIETNAM SOC REP98.000.21 00 00 00
08028020SPLITCANADA0.500.00 00 00 00
INDONESIA3592.145.636741.0811.741278.924.326505.0027.72
MALAYSIA 00 00221.590.79375.000.65
MYANMAR 00205.000.58734.452.444327.3915.24
NEPAL 00 00421.991.431826.825.99
SINGAPORE 00 0052.000.1481.000.14
SRI LANKA DSR 00 00 003.900.02
U ARAB EMTS 00216.800.78885.961.942,350.006.46
08028030GROUNDSRI LANKA DSR321.001.2989.000.35 00 00
08028090OTHER ARECA NUTSINDONESIA2676.003.422223.003.023643.087.214161.2513.73
MYANMAR 002022.767.175520.6319.8817307.3260.24
SINGAPORE 000014.000.05135.040.56
SRI LANKA DSR9179.5134.199759.6136.068967.2837.6812628.3546.78
U ARAB EMTS 0000130.800.671328.005.02
UNSPECIFIED 000.050.000000

Source: DGCIS, Kolkata
