

Coconut

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Coconut Latest News

Recently the Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare informed the Lok Sabha that India is the world's largest producer of coconuts contributing to 30.37% of the Global coconut production.

About Coconut

- Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*) is a large palm of the family Arecaceae.
- It grows in the **subtropical coastal regions of Asia** (India, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia) and Oceania.
- It originated **in Southeast Asia**, and was transported throughout the Pacific either by migrating Indonesians and Polynesians.
- **Distribution in India:** It is majorly grown in **Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh**, Odisha, Goa, and West Bengal.
- **Uses:** Coconuts are used as whole fruits or, conversely, by their parts: mesocarp fibers, milk, kernel (or flesh), husk.

Required Climatic Conditions for Coconut

- **Rainfall: 1000-3000 mm per year.** Prefers evenly distributed rainfall
- **Temperature:** Optimum **27°C** with a diurnal variation of 6-7 0C Cold spells are more limiting than high temperatures. Light- Coconut palm requires maximum sunlight.
- **Altitude:** Up to **600 m above mean sea level.**
- If temperature remains favourable, the palm grows **well up to an altitude of 800 m.**
- **Humidity:** Needs warm and humid conditions
- **Soils:** It is particularly adapted to the **coastal light sandy and sandy loam type soils.** Coconuts also **thrive well in laterite soils.**

Source: PIB

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