

നക്ഷത്ര ചിഹ്നവിടങ്ങ  
ചോദ്യം നമ്പർ 1141

11-07-2011-ൽ രൂപപ്പെട്ട്

തൊഴിലുറപ്പ് പദ്ധതികൾ പറ്റി ചോദ്യം

ചോദ്യം

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(കൃഷിയും മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലും സഹായകരമായ പദ്ധതികളും  
തൊഴിലുറപ്പ് പദ്ധതി)

(എ) ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് നിയമസഭയിൽ  
മണ്ഡലങ്ങളിലെ ഏതെങ്കിലും  
നഗരസഭകൾ - തൊഴിലുറപ്പ് പദ്ധതികളിൽ  
ജാബ് ക്രെഡിറ്റ് ഗവണ്മെന്റ്  
സഹായത്തോടെ കൃഷിയുള്ളതും,  
നാളികേര വികസന ബോർഡ്  
നടപ്പാക്കുന്നതുമായ തൊഴിലുറപ്പ്  
പദ്ധതികൾ പറ്റി ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ  
നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്നത്?

(എ) ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ബില്ലുകളിലെ, പദ്ധതികൾ,  
ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ, ബില്ലുകളിൽ, ചിലകൾ,  
കുടുംബശ്രീ, പുനരധിവാസം, മെട്രോപ്പൊളിറ്റൻ  
പദ്ധതികളിലാണ് നാളികേര വികസന ബോർഡ്  
പദ്ധതി ഈ വർഷം നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്നത്.

(ബി) ഇതിലേക്കായി ഏതു കോടതി  
രൂപമാണ് ചെലവഴിക്കുവാൻ  
ഇടയാക്കുന്നതെന്നും പദ്ധതി  
കാലയളവ് വ്യക്തമാക്കുമോ?

ബി) പദ്ധതി ചെലവടാനായി ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന  
രൂപമാണ് തുക വാർഡ് തല പ്രോജക്റ്റുകൾ  
പദ്ധതികളിൽ കോഡിക്ലിപ്പിന്റേതും ഗോഷം  
മറ്റുതരം അറിയിപ്പുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതുമുള്ള പദ്ധതി  
കാലയളവ് രണ്ടു വർഷമാണ്.

സി) പദ്ധതി പ്രവർത്തനം  
ആരംഭിച്ചുവെങ്കിലും പ്രവർത്തന  
പുരോഗതി മന്ദഗതിയിലാണെന്നും  
കാര്യം ക്രമത്തിൽ പരിഹരിക്കുമോ?

സി) പദ്ധതി നാളികേര വികസന ബോർഡ്,  
സഹായക കൃഷി വകുപ്പും പദ്ധതികളിലൂടെ  
ചേർന്നാണ് നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്നത്. നിയമസഭ  
ഇലക്ഷൻ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ച കാലയളവിൽ മെട്രോ  
പൊളിറ്റൻ നിലവിലില്ലാത്തതിനാൽ  
പദ്ധതികൾ സർവ്വതോമുഖം മറ്റും ചെലവുവാൻ  
കാലതാമസമുണ്ടായി. പ്രോജക്റ്റുകൾ  
പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ വാർഡുകളിൽ പദ്ധതി  
ശുപാർശ ചെലവുവാൻ വേണ്ടി രൂപീകരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള  
പദ്ധതികൾ തല സമിതിയുടെ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ  
അനുസരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും പദ്ധതി ശുപാർശയിൽ  
പുരോഗതികളുണ്ടാകും.

**COCONUT DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Guidelines**

**on**

**The Pilot Project for Replanting and  
Rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens  
of three districts of Kerala and  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands**



**Ministry of Agriculture  
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation  
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.**

**May 2009**

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cultivation unremunerative particularly in the traditional states

Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have a predominantly coconut based economy. The declining productivity has been a major cause of concern in these coconut growing areas. An analysis has shown that the prevalence of old and senile palms, severe incidence of root (wilt) disease and poor management are the major reasons for the low productivity of coconut in Kerala. In A&N Islands, low productivity is mainly due to the existence of a large number of old and senile palms.

## 2. Background:

Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kayamkulam has established that the root(wilt) disease is caused by Phytoplasma and there are no suitable curative measures to combat this disease.

The strategy recommended is cutting of disease advanced, old and senile palms and adoption of integrated management practices for nurturing the mildly affected palms back to health. With a view to improving productivity in these traditional areas which have a huge stock of old and diseased palms, it has been decided to implement the Pilot Project for Replanting and Rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens in the severely affected Districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Thirssur in Kerala and Union Territory

results of this pilot project, extension of the activities to other affected areas could be considered later.

## 3. Objective:

This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. A Designated Officer (D.O.) by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation shall administer the scheme in consultation with the Central Government. The scheme is for total removal of all disease advanced unproductive, old and senile palms in Kerala and unproductive old and senile palm in A&N Islands in a mission mode.

Chairman, Coconut Development Board (CDB) is the Designated Officer (D.O.) of DAC for this project.

## 4. Components:

- Cutting and removal of all old, senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms followed by replantation.
- Rejuvenation of existing gardens through integrated management practices
- Assistance for replanting.
- Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, Training etc

### (i) Cutting and removal of all old, senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms

A subsidy @ Rs. 500 per palm for the first 20 palms, Rs. 250 per palm

## 1. Introduction:

Coconut is essentially a small holders crop, fragmented holdings, scattered production, the homestead nature of cultivation, the high incidence of pest and disease and the large stock of senile palms have made coconut cultivation unremunerative particularly in the traditional states.

Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have a predominantly coconut based economy. The declining productivity has been a major cause of concern in these coconut growing areas. An analysis has shown that the prevalence of old and senile palms, severe incidence of root (wilt) disease and poor management are the major reasons for the low productivity of coconut in Kerala. In A&N Islands, low productivity is mainly due to the existence of a large number of old and senile palms.

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(UT) of Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands on a pilot basis.

The project with a total outlay of Rs. 2275.64 crore and a central subsidy of Rs 478.504 crore will be implemented over the remaining three years of the XI plan. Based on the results of this pilot project, extension of the activities to other affected areas could be considered later.

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### (i) Cutting and removal of all old, senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms

A subsidy @ Rs 500 per palm for the first 20 palms, Rs 250 per palm

for subsequently removed palms, subject to a maximum of Rs. 13,000/ha shall be provided to the farmers for cutting and removal of old, senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms. The cutting and removal of disease affected palms in the three districts of Kerala and old and senile palms in A&N Islands shall be undertaken on the basis of the initial base line survey.

(ii) Rejuvenation of the existing coconut palms by Integrated Management

The area identified for rejuvenation in three districts of Kerala is 1.33 lakh ha and in case of A&N Islands the area for rejuvenation will be of 0.02 lakh ha, for which integrated management practices involving the following is essential:

- Balanced nutrition through fertilizer application
- Irrigation and drainage
- Soil and moisture conservation
- Growing of green manure cover crops
- Application of organic manure including enriched organics
- Intercultural operation including weed control
- Need based plant protection measures preferably with botanicals and bio-agents
- Regulation of shade and maintaining optimum palm population and
- Promotion of inter / mixed cropping

For adoption of Integrated management practices a subsidy of Rs. 15000/ha will be provided in two instalments of Rs 7500/- each. The eligibility for availing assistance under this component is a maximum 4 ha per beneficiary.

(iii) Assistance for replanting

Cutting and removal of advanced disease affected and senile palms will be followed by a systematic replanting programme, which is aimed at 50% replantation to maintain optimum and sustainable density. In the case of Kerala, disease tolerant tall seedlings produced from seed nuts procured from healthy mother palms identified in hotspot areas as per recommendation of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) and disease tolerant dwarfs and hybrids will be adopted. In A&N Islands, replanting with local tall and dwarfs will be taken up. ELISA test for confirming root-wilt infestation shall be conducted with the help of ICAR. A subsidy @ Rs. 20/- per seedling will be provided.

(iv) Training and Capacity Building

Training will be imparted to farmers in scientific management of coconut palms, including identification of root wilt disease advanced, old unproductive palms, marking of the palms to be removed and conduct of initial base line survey. Awareness/ Training programmes/ Group discussions and workshops involving experts from CPCRI, State Agricultural Universities (SAU), Department of Agriculture / Horticulture, Coconut Development Board (CDB) will be arranged periodically.

**5. Salient Features:**

- i. The project for Replanting and Rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens will be implemented on project basis in the root-wilt affected districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Thrissur in Kerala and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- ii. Enzyme - Linked Immuno Sorbant Assay (ELISA) test for confirming root-wilt infestation shall be conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on random basis as per standard practice, in hot spot areas.
- iii. The scheme shall be implemented in mission mode for total removal of all advanced disease affected, unproductive, old and senile palms in targeted areas
- iv. Replanting and rejuvenation programme will be implemented during the remaining 3 years of XI Plan i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12 and first year (2012-13) of 12th Plan.
- v. The programme will be implemented in a farmer participatory mode in contiguous areas within Panchayats/Tribal Council Area (TCA) in identified Districts, for visible impact.
- vi. Organic farming for palms shall be encouraged to the extent practical and possible.
- vii. The programme will commence in contiguous area of at least 25-50 ha where farmers have formed themselves into a group as a coconut cluster. Each cluster will have an elected Cluster Convener and sub group leaders
- viii. A base-line survey will be carried out in a farmer participatory mode covering all holdings in the project area. The palms for cutting and removal will be identified by the farmers themselves and verified by the Cluster Convener and will be inspected by the Agriculture Officer of the State Government/UT Admn./ CDB officials.
- ix. Based on the information in the base line survey, the officials of the Board shall facilitate the formulation of the project report by the clusters.
- x. The project reports of individual clusters shall be consolidated into one report at the Panchayat level/TCA/ Municipal level by the local Agriculture Officer and presented to the Area Development Committee.
- xi. The project report shall be recommended by the Area Development Committee, chaired by the President of the local Self Government Institution/Tribal Council. The projects so approved by the Area Development Committees shall be consolidated by the Joint Director of Agriculture / District Agriculture Officer and forwarded to the State Level Committee/ any other Committee constituted by the

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State Government/UT  
Administration.

- xii. The Committee constituted by the State Government shall scrutinize the project reports and forward to the D.O.
- xiii. D.O. shall constitute an internal technical committee to scrutinize the proposals and accord administrative approval for the implementation.
- xiv. For the rejuvenation programme, the clusters shall be linked to a credit institution for providing inputs for the rejuvenation programme.
- xv. After the approval of projects by the D.O., cutting and removal of entire identified/marked palms in holdings shall be undertaken by the clusters.
- xvi. Funds will be released by D.O. to the local Agriculture Officers after cutting and removal. The subsidy for rejuvenation shall be released to the credit institutions/manufacturers who have supplied the inputs on credit basis.
- xvii. The State Government/UT Admn may, if required, provide additional financial support to the farmers from own resources on any or all components of this project.

## 6. Eligibility

### 6.1 Activities eligible for subsidy

- Cutting and removal of old, unproductive, diseased and

senile coconut palms and field sanitation

- Replacement planting with disease tolerant falls, hybrids and dwarf cultivars to maintain optimum palm population viz. 160-175 palms/ha.
- Rejuvenation of the coconut gardens by adopting integrated management practices as recommended by CPCRI or SAU's

### 6.2 Eligibility Criteria

- All farmers in contiguous areas in a ward/Panchayat/TCA shall be eligible for assistance.
- The cluster should be registered with the Coconut Development Board.
- Applicant should be the owner cultivator of the land
- Assistance under the scheme will be limited to 4 ha per farmer.

### 6.3 Conditions to be satisfied by applicants for cutting and Replanting

- The palms identified for cutting and removal in the cluster should be yielding less than 10 nuts / year.
- The palms to be cut and removed should be clearly marked.
- The palms identified by the cluster for removal will be approved by the local Agriculture Officer.

- Cutting and removal of the palm identified should be completed within 3 months of the approval. The time limit can be relaxed by the State Government/UT Admn if there is sufficient justification to be communicated to the DO.
- The applicant should use only quality coconut seedlings for replacement planting. The seedlings should be procured from nurseries of State Department of Agriculture/ Horticulture or State Agricultural Universities/CDB/CPCR/ or private nurseries assisted by CDB/ State Dept/UT Admn.
- While replanting the palm population should not exceed 175/ha subject to the limitation of topography.
- Replacement planting/replanting in all cases should be completed within 12 months of the uprooting.
- Prior to commencement of replanting the soil/pits should be made suitable for replanting.
- Soil testing should be carried out through recognized soil testing labs.

#### 6.4 Conditions to be followed for Rejuvenation

- The proposed garden for rejuvenation should not be an abandoned garden (or) should not belong to an absentee land lord.
- The existing palms in the garden should be potentially healthy for being rejuvenated.
- The area to be rejuvenated will be surveyed and all the basic

data of the garden/farmer will be recorded.

- Farmers in the cluster will be linked to credit institutions for availing credit facilities.

#### 7. Sanction of projects.

- The cluster will first prepare the project for cutting and removal with the help of the Board's officials. The Project will be checked by the local Agriculture Officer and forwarded to the Area Development Committee in Kerala and its substitute in A&N, if any.
- On the basis of individual cluster projects, the local Agricultural Officer will submit one consolidated project report for a Panchayat and TCA in the tribal areas of A&N Islands.
- After approval of the project report by the Area Development Committees, the Joint Director of Agriculture / District Agriculture Officer will consolidate Panchayat & TCA wise projects and forward the projects to the Committee constituted by the State Government/UT.
- The committee appointed by the State Govt./UT shall consider the Projects and recommend the eligible projects to the D.O.
- The D.O. will constitute an internal technical committee to accord approval.
- After cutting and removal of the identified palms, the D.O. shall release the eligible subsidy.
- The cluster will also prepare an action plan and calendar of



operation for rejuvenation which will include INM, IPM, IWM, etc.

- The cluster will first avail of credit for the purchase of inputs from the local credit institution/ co-operative societies/purchase inputs on credit from approved manufacturers
- D.O. will reimburse subsidy @ 25% of the cost of inputs limited to Rs. 15000 per ha to the credit institution /Co-operative societies/ approved manufacturers @ Rs. 7500 per year for a period of two years.
- The farmer can avail subsidies/assistance under NHM, NCPA/NREGS, Medicinal Plants Board, Spices Board, etc. for introducing inter/mixed cropping systems with compatible crops, for drip/micro irrigation etc.
- Disbursement of subsidy will be as follows:

I instalment (1 year)	After removal of all the identified palms in the garden as per eligibility.
II instalment (1 year)	On completion of integrated activities in the rejuvenation programme (@ Rs.7500/ha or 25% of the Cost of inputs)
III instalment (2 <sup>nd</sup> year)	Replanting subsidy @ Rs. 20/ seedling
IV instalment (2 <sup>nd</sup> year)	On completion of second round of rejuvenation programme @ Rs. 7500/ha

- Subsidy will be disbursed after verifying the bills, vouchers, etc. for activities undertaken/inputs applied after inspection and certification by authorised officers.

- The full amount of eligible subsidy shall be availed within 3 years from the date of issuance of administrative approval cum sanction letter.
- Any amount remaining unpaid beyond the period of 3 years shall not be eligible for disbursement and the case shall be treated as time barred and closed.

#### 8. Inspections

- Inspection of the gardens will be done by the implementing officers of the area along with members of the Area Development Committee/Board Officers/Tribal Area Officer
- First inspection will be done soon after receipt of applications from the farmers after which the trees will be marked and inspected by the local agriculture officer/Board officers for verification of the marked palms.
- Second inspection will be done by local agriculture officer/Board officer/ District Collectorate Officer after completion of cutting and removal of the palms as per the approved action plan. Completion of first inspection and satisfactory report thereof entitles the applicant to receive subsidy @ Rs.500/palm removed subject to a maximum of Rs 13,000/ha.
- The third stage inspection will be done by the Local Agriculture Officer/Board Officials soon after receipt of applications from the beneficiaries regarding the

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completion of activities under the rejuvenation programme. Completion of this inspection and satisfactory report thereof shall entitle the applicant to receive the second instalment of subsidy limited to Rs. 7500/ha or 25% of the input cost as envisaged in the action plan whichever is less.

- On completion of replacement planting with approved quality seedling and on receipt of report thereof, fourth stage inspection will be made. Satisfactory replanting entitles the applicant to receive the replanting subsidy @ Rs. 20 per seedling.
- Fifth stage inspection will be done soon after receiving of applications from the beneficiaries regarding the completion of integrated management activities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of operation as per action plan. Completion of this inspection and satisfactory report thereof shall entitle the applicant farmer to receive the 4<sup>th</sup> instalment of subsidy limited to 25% of the cost of inputs or Rs.7500/ha whichever is less.
- At least 10% of the palms removed and the rejuvenated area shall be inspected directly by the Board.

#### **9. Benefit of the project**

It is expected that the project will result in cutting and removal of approx 143.593 lakh disease affected palms, rejuvenation of coconut

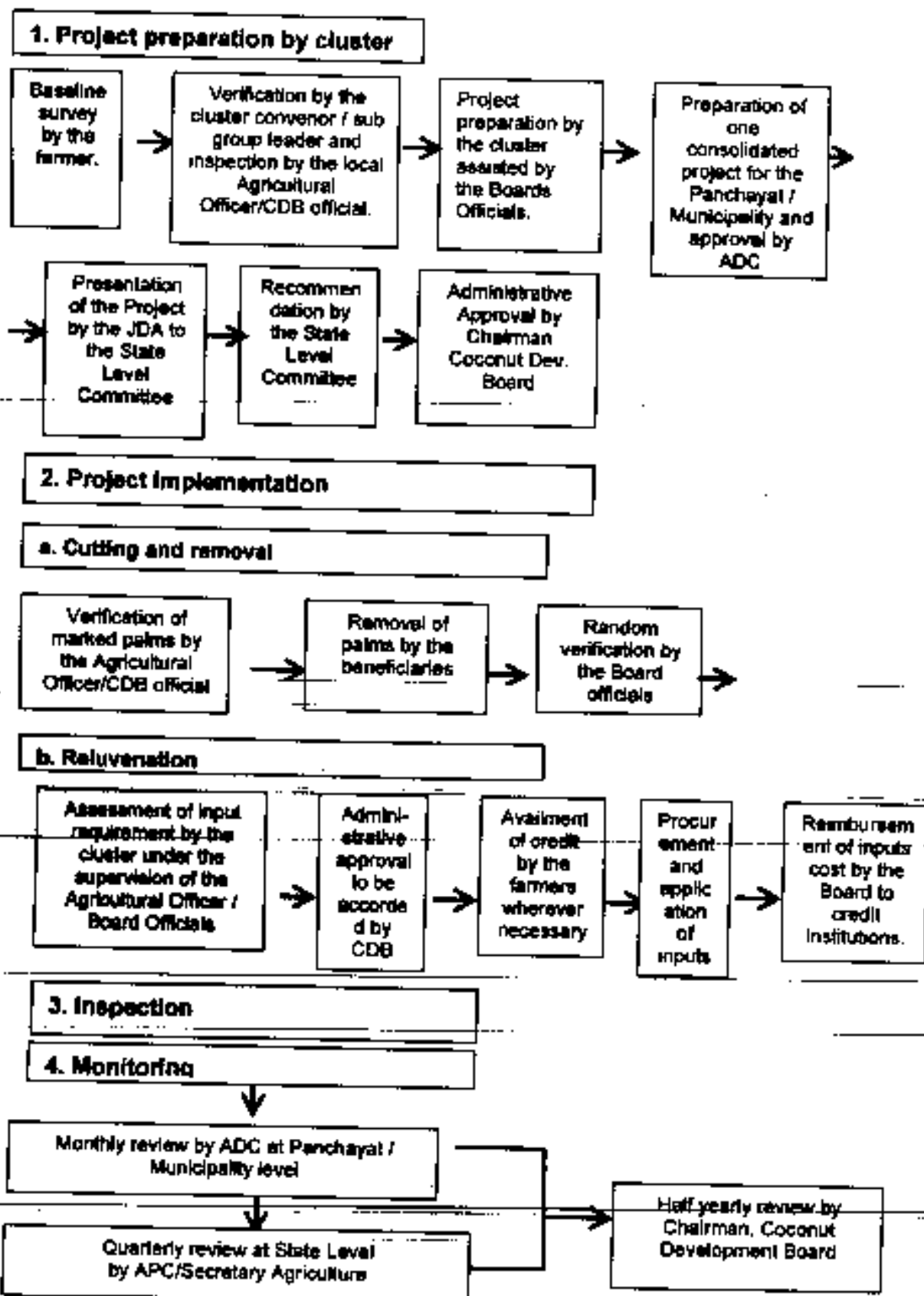
gardens in an area of 1.35 lakh ha in three selected districts of Kerala and Andaman Nicobar Islands, which will increase productivity of coconuts.

Additional income and employment generated through coconut based integrated farming system will improve the livelihood security of small and marginal farmers/ agricultural workers in coconut sector and result in increased production of 150-650 million nuts at value of Rs.75-325 crore per year.

#### **10. Monitoring of the Project**

- Implementation of project will be closely monitored at the level of cluster by Area Development Officer, by Tribal Council in tribal areas, at Panchayat level by the Panchayati Raj Institutions, by the Local Body in municipal area, at the state level by the State Government and by Coconut Development Board at the national level.
- There shall be a State Level Committee, under the chairmanship of Agri Production Commissioner / Secretary (Agriculture). At the National Level the project shall be monitored by a committee chaired by D.O.
- The project will be reviewed by external consultants, for concurrent monitoring. A mid-term evaluation will be conducted for suggesting mid-term corrections. Final evaluation of the scheme will be undertaken in the final year of the implementation.

## 11. Work flow



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