

# STUDY ON ARECANUT IN INDIA



COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI

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## FOREWORD

Arecanut is one of the important commercial crops of the country and is the source of livelihood for nearly 3 million people. Its cultivation is confined to western Peninsular Coast extending from Bombay to Kanyakumari, Mysore, Madras and in North Eastern States of Assam, West Bengal and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. Though India is the main producing country, it is not self-sufficient. Until 1957-58, substantial quantities were being imported from Ceylon, Malaya and Singapore. The present production amounts to 95,000 metric tonnes from an area of 1.17 lakh hectares. Our requirements are estimated at 115,000 metric tonnes per annum. The country is thus short of about 20,000 metric tonnes of the commodity. It is, therefore, imperative that efforts are made to make the country self-sufficient in arecanut.

The present study indicates that there is much scope of increasing production of this crop by intensifying its cultivation.

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