



नारियल विकास बोर्ड

(कृषि मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)

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अध्यक्ष
INNIE MATHEW IAS
CHAIRMAN

D.O.No.1288/2005-IT

05.03.2009

Dear Ms Sunita Narain,

Greetings!

I am writing this in the context of a news item that appeared recently regarding your studies on major edible oils. The report contains very interesting observations on coconut oil which need to be brought to public notice in a big way.

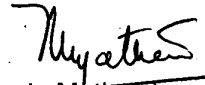
Coconut provides livelihood security to 10 million people in the country. Though many value added products have been derived from coconut, coconut oil continues to be the major commercial product. Coconut oil is, however, subject to violent price fluctuations. One of the reasons for the volatility in prices is the low demand for coconut oil mainly due to the cholesterol related controversies surrounding coconut oil.

The Coconut Development Board is a statutory organization functioning under the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and is mandated with the responsibility of integrated development of coconut industry in India. We have been sponsoring research studies by reputed national institutions such as Sri Chitra Thirunal Institute of Medical Sciences, National Institute for Nutrition, etc. on coconut and coconut oil and its effects on cardio vascular health. Some of these studies have come out with several positive findings about the uniqueness of coconut oil which is very different from other saturated fats on account of the presence of lauric acid. We have been utilising this evidence in our generic promotion campaign to dispel the misconceptions and also to create awareness about the goodness of coconut.

In this context I shall be grateful if you could make available more details of your studies which I hope will be useful to promote the use of coconut oil, which will ultimately benefit the coconut farming community.

I would be very happy to hear from you in this regard.

Yours sincerely,


(Minnie Mathew)

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