

One day Coconut Fair organized at Vasai Virar, Palghar, Maharashtra on 29-11-15

5000 coconut seedlings distributed at the Fair

A one day Coconut Fair was organized in a big way jointly by the Vasai Virar City Municipal Corporation, Agricultural Produce Marketing Society, Vasai and Coconut Development Board at Virar, Palghar District, Maharashtra on 29.11.2015. In the fair 5000 coconut seedlings produced from Coconut Development Board's Demonstration cum Seed Production Farm at Palghar, Maharashtra was distributed among the farmers. The fair was inaugurated by Adv. Shri.Chintaman Wanga, Hon'ble MP (Lok Sabha) in presence of Shri Hitendra Thakur, Shri Vilas Tare, Hon'ble MLAs, Shri Dominic Gonsalves, Ex.Chief whip of opposition, Vidhan Sabha, Maharashtra, Dr.TI Mathewkutty, Director, CDB and other delegates. Applauding that an agricultural crop distributed in a mass manner by a Municipal Corporation, the Hon'ble MP requested that participants to take benefit of the efforts taken by the VVCMC in association with the CDB in this regard. Shri Hitendra Thakur requested the Board to give proper guidelines to the VVCMC to proceed further. A technical session was also organized as part of the programme in which Dr.TI Mathewkutty, Director, CDB spoke on the scope of coconut cultivation and value addition in Maharashtra especially with reference to neera and coconut milk – the upcoming vegi milk. Various assistances given by CDB to coconut farmers were also discussed in detail. Dr.R.G. Khandekar, Senior Scientist and In Charge, Regional Coconut Research Station, Dr.Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Bhatye, Ratnigiri District, Maharashtra elaborated the coconut cultivation technologies. About 1500 farmers had attended the programme. Exhibitions stalls of CDB, State Agriculture Department and Viva Centre for Advance Research & Development, Virar were also arranged at the venue. The CDB stall has demonstrated the huge potential for value addition in coconut for the benefit of coconut farmers and consumers of Maharashtra.

