The 40th meeting of the Project Approval Committee (PAC) on Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC) held at Kochi under the chairmanship of Shri. T.K. Jose IAS, Chairman, Coconut Development Board cleared 43 projects with an outlay of Rs.94.72 crores and subsidy of Rs.9.87 crores. Nine Research projects including process standardisation of Neera are listed in the approved projects.

Under the project component ‘Processing and Product Diversification’ 34 manufacturing units have been sanctioned which included setting up of 11 Desiccated Coconut Powder manufacturing units, one Virgin Coconut Oil unit, four Tender Coconut Water units, two Coconut Milk Powder units, one Coconut Water based Vinegar unit, two Coconut Shell Charcoal units, five Coconut Shell based Activated Carbon, seven Ball Copra and one Milling Copra unit.

In Kerala six units were sanctioned for Desiccated Coconut Powder, Virgin Coconut Oil, Coconut Milk Powder and Packaging of Tender Coconut Water having the capacity to process 85,000 nuts per day. In addition, one Vinegar unit, one Ball Copra unit for
processing 80,000 nuts per year and one milling copra unit to Federation of Coconut Producers’ Society (Muthalamada, Palakkad) were also sanctioned.

In Karnataka nine units of Desiccated Coconut Powder having a capacity for processing 2,85,000 nuts per day, one tender coconut water packing unit for processing 20,000 nuts per day and 2 shell charcoal and one activated carbon unit with a capacity to process 180 MT of shell per day were sanctioned.

In Tamilnadu three units for Tender Coconut Water and one Milk Powder unit for processing 1,46,000 nuts per day and 3 Activated Carbon having production capacity of 247.50 MT shell per day were sanctioned.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh PAC sanctioned five ball copra units with a capacity to process 41.5 lakh coconuts per year.

Shri. M.K Shankarlingegowda IAS, Principal Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Dr. George V. Thomas, Director, CPCRI, Kasargod, Shri. B.J Jayakumar, Additional Director, Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, Dr. Anilkumar R, Assistant Agricultural Marketing Adviser, DMI, RO, Kochi, Shri. P.M. Jayapher, AGM, Indian Overseas Bank, Regional Office, Ernakulam, Dr. Chandrika Mohan, Senior Scientist, CPCRI, Kayamkulam, Shri. Sugatha Ghosh, Chief Coconut Development Officer, Coconut Development Board, Kochi, Dr. K. Muralidharan, Director, Coconut Development Board, Dr. A.K. Nandi, Secretary, Coconut Development Board attended the meeting. Dr. A.N Srivatsa, Retd. Scientist (DFRL) attended the meeting as invited expert.