

# The Coconut Committee Act, 1944

( ACT NO. X OF 1944 )

**An Act to provide for financing a Committee for the improvement and development of the cultivation, marketing and utilisation of coconuts in Bangladesh.<sup>1♣</sup>**

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for financing a Committee for the improvement and development of the cultivation, marketing and utilisation of coconuts in Bangladesh;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

## **Short title and extent**

1. (1) This Act may be called the Coconut Committee Act, 1944.
- (2) It extends to the whole of Bangladesh.

## **Definitions**

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-
  - (a) “Collector” means the officer appointed by the Government to perform in any specified area the duties of a Collector under the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, and includes any officer subordinate to that officer whom he may by order in writing authorise to perform his duties under those provisions;
  - (b) “the Committee” means the Bangladesh Food and Agriculture Committee set up under sub section (1) of section 5A of the Agricultural Produce Cess Act, 1940, or any body which replaces the said Committee under sub section (2) of that section;
  - (c) “mill” means any place in which copra is crushed for the extraction of oil, which is a factory as defined in section 2 of the <sup>2</sup>[Factories Act, 1965];
  - (d) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

## **Imposition of coconut**

3. (1) There shall be levied and collected, as a cess for the purposes of this Act, on all copra consumed in any mill in Bangladesh, whether produced in or imported from outside Bangladesh, a duty of excise at such rate, not exceeding <sup>3</sup>[twenty-five poisha] per cwt., as the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, fix in this behalf :

Provided that the Government may by notification in the official Gazette vary the rate at which the duty of excise shall be levied and collected.

(2) On the last day of each month, or as soon thereafter as may be convenient, the proceeds of the duty recovered during that month shall, after deduction of the expenses, if any, of collection and recovery, be paid to the Committee.

(3) The proceeds of the duties recovered since the fifteenth day of August 1947 after deducting expenses of collection and recovery if any shall be paid to the Committee forthwith.

**[Omitted.]**

4. [Constitution of Indian Coconut Committee.- Omitted by section 7 of the Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1950 (Act No. XVIII of 1950).]

**[Omitted.]**

5. [Incorporation of the Committee.- Omitted by section 7 of the Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1950 (Act No. XVIII of 1950).]

**[Omitted.]**

6. [Vacancies.- Omitted by section 7 of the Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1950 (Act No. XVIII of 1950).]

**[Omitted.]**

7. [President of Committee, Secretary, Sub committees and staff.- Omitted by section 7 of the Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1950 (Act No. XVIII of 1950).]

**[Omitted.]**

8. [Appointment of officers.- Omitted by section 7 of the Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1950 (Act No. XVIII of 1950).]

**Functions  
of the  
Committee**

9. (1) The Committee shall take such measures as it may consider necessary or expedient for the improvement and development of the

The Coconut Committee Act, 1944  
cultivation and marketing of coconuts and of the production, utilisation and marketing of copra, coconut oil and coconut poonac.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, the Committee may defray expenditure involved in-

- (a) undertaking, assisting or encouraging agricultural, industrial, technological and economic research;
- (b) the supply of technical advice to growers;
- (c) encouraging the adoption of improved methods in cultivation;
- (d) carrying on such propaganda in the interests of the coconut industry as may be necessary;
- (e) collecting statistics from growers, dealers, millers and other sources on all relevant matters bearing on the industry;
- (f) fixing grade standards of copra and its products;
- (g) recommending the maximum and minimum prices to be fixed for copra;
- (h) advising on all matters which require attention for the development of the industry;
- (i) improving the marketing of coconuts and suggesting suitable measures to prevent unfair competition;
- (j) assisting in the control of insects and other pests and diseases of coconut trees;
- (k) promoting and encouraging co operative efforts among the coconut growers and in the coconut industries;
- (l) adopting such measures as may be practicable for assuring remunerative returns to growers;
- (m) maintaining and assisting in the maintenance of such institutes, farms and stations as it may consider necessary;
- (n) adopting any other measures or performing any other duties which it may be required by the Government to adopt or perform or which the