

Neera company, CFTRI sign pact

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KOCHI: Palakkad Coconut Producer Company Limited (PCPCL), one of the 12 farmer producer companies formed under the aegis of Coconut Development Board, has entered into an MoU with Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore, for research and development in neera derivatives, processing, and packaging.

The agreement was signed by CFTRI secretary Mallika Kumar and PCPCL chairman P. Vinod Kumar.

Technological tie-up

The agreement for technological collaboration will enable the PCPCL to expand its commercial use of neera, sourcing the produce from 12

- **MoU for research and development in neera derivatives**
- **PCPCL has 26,000 coconut farmers under it**

federations to take the daily sales volume to Rs.1 crore a day.

In a statement, the Coconut Development Board said that the PCPCL had 26,000 coconut farmers under it.

Economic security

CFTRI Director Ramraj Shekhar was cited in the press release as saying that neera was a major technological and economic innovation providing economic security to coconut farmers and neera

technicians.

The agreement between the CFTRI and the PCPCL is expected to be "of futuristic nature" and the terms and conditions are that the PCPCL will be paying a fee of 1 per cent of its sales turnover to the Mysore-based research institute.

Long-term partnership

In turn, the CFTRI will extend a long-term partnership in developing, standardising and commercialising technology for processing and packaging neera and its derivatives, the press release added.

On the occasion of the signing of the MoU, CFTRI had put on display five major neera products like neera concentrate, neera honey as well as bottled neera.