

Decks cleared for Neera production

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram:

The government has given the concurrence for Kerala Sweet Toddy (Neera) Rules, 2014. The draft of the rules will soon be issued through a notification in the gazette. With this all the decks have been cleared for Neera production in the state.

As per the rules, deputy commissioner of the respective excise regions will be the authority for issuing licence for the production of Neera and other Neera-based products. The annual licence fee for the production units will be Rs 100. The licence will be issued for one year between April 1 and March 31, said excise minister K Babu here.

Neera is a sweet juice extracted from coconut prior to fermentation.

The agriculture department has conducted Neera farmers meet and seminars in all districts in order to create awareness among the farmers regarding the Neera production.

The government has decided to give priority to the traditional toddy tappers in the production and sale of Neera.