

Neera extraction: Karnataka to amend Excise Act

Our Bureau

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The Karnataka Government has decided to amend the Excise Act, which prohibits the ban on extracting 'Neera' to make it a money spinner for coconut farmers in the State.

The Coconut Development Board in a statement here said Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had stated this in the budget declaration related to the activities of the Government on coconut. In addition to Neera, value-added products from Neera such as palm syrup, palm jaggery and palm sugar also would be promoted, he added.

For this purpose, Rs 1 crore has been allocated for Coconut Producers Company to be formed with 25 per cent contribution towards share/investment capital. As many as five coconut parks will be established in the State for the production of value-added coconut products from Neera.