

Govt to approve Neera production

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram:

The government plans to approve the commercial production of Neera across the state from August 16.

"Chief minister Oommen Chandy will announce this decision at a function in Kottayam in connection with the annual farmers' day celebration," state agriculture minister K P Mohanan said.

Neera is a farm produce extracted from coconut trees. It's a natural and non-alcoholic beverage high in nutritional value and an instant thirst quencher.



The state had appointed an expert committee to study the marketing potential of Neera early this year. The committee submitted a positive report to the state excise ministry, detailing the health and marketing potential of the drink.

Kerala has 180 million

“ Chief minister Oommen Chandy will announce this decision at a function in Kottayam in connection with the annual farmers' day celebration

K P Mohanan |
AGRICULTURE MINISTER



coconut trees and it is estimated that from one coconut tree a farmer will be able to generate an income of around Rs 1,200 every month.

The last state budget too had allocated funds for setting up 10 Neera processing plants in the state.

Meanwhile, the agriculture department announced best farmer awards in various sectors of agriculture on Tuesday.

The award for best group farming initiative was given to Konchira Punchkol Padashekram in Thrissur. The Karshaka Thoma award was given to K Binu from Kollam district, Harita Mitra award was given to P R Jose from Mala, Udhayan Sresth award was given to Vinod Kartikeyan from Thiruvananthapuram and the best NRI farmer award was given to Sudhish Kumar for terrace farming in Sharjah.