

Seventeenth Loksabha

>

Title: Regarding inclusion of Gloriosa Superba, a species of a flowering plant in the list of approved medicinal plants.

SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (ERODE): Gloriosa Superba is a species of a flowering plant which is grown in a large area of more than 5,000 acres in Tiruppur, Karur, Dindigul and Erode districts of Tamil Nadu. The seeds of this plant have medicinal value. Approximately one lakh tonnes of seeds of this Gloriosa Superba plant were exported. There is a market value in foreign countries knowing the importance of this medicinal plant. Since it is a medicinal plant its value increases due to its large scale exports. The price value is high for this plant in foreign countries. Some businessmen and business organisations procure this medicinal plant on a large scale from the farmers at a low price and sell them abroad at a high price. Gloriosa Superba seeds are not found in the list of medicinal products or farm products of the Government of India. Due to this, farmers do not get remunerative price for the plants grown by them which makes them unable to get collateral loans from banks. As many as 10,000 small farmers are affected. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to include Gloriosa Superba plant in the approved list of medicinal plants besides making arrangements for direct procurement of those plants so that farmers can get remunerative prices for their produce.