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Title: Demand to exempt coconut oil from GST.

***SHRI K. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (POLLACHI):** Hon. Speaker Sir, Thank you for this opportunity. Coconut cultivation is predominant in my Pollachi parliamentary constituency. Coconut trees are cultivated in an area of 4,50,000 hectares in Tamil Nadu. In Coimbatore it is cultivated in 87000 hectares and in Tiruppur it is cultivated in 65000 hectares. Coconut production was affected due to several diseases such as grey blight, white fly attacks, bud rot etc. It is our long pending demand with the Union Government for increasing the procuring cost of Milling Copra. But they have not fulfilled that demand so far. The cost of Milling Copra is Rs 103 per kg today. This should be increased as Rs 160 per kg. Union Government has levied a GST of 5 per cent for coconut oil. I request that the Coconut oil should be fully exempted from GST. I also urge the Union Government to set up a Coconut Research Centre in Pollachi. Thank you.