

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title:Regarding problems faced by the farmers in Idukki due to the fall in cardamom prices.

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): Sir, due to drastic fall in prices of cardamom, our farmers are facing a crucial situation in my constituency. Eighty per cent of cardamom comes from my constituency of Idukki. I am a member of Spices Board also because I am representing that particular constituency but I am feeling that there is no meaning to continue in that particular post because Spices Board is helpless. They are not giving any incentives or any benefits to our farmers. The Government is not at all supporting Spices Board which is quite unfortunate. So, I would suggest that the Government should support by announcing a minimum support price for cardamom farmers. It should be, at least, Rs. 1,500. As per the Swaminathan formula of 'the cost+50%', at least, Rs. 1,500 should be announced as MSP. Otherwise, it will be a crisis for our cardamom farmers.