

Re: Plight of Paddy farmers in Kerala

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): The suffering and agony of paddy farmers in Kuttanad region in particular and Kerala State in general need to be addressed and resolved immediately. The paddy farmers of Kerala are given their dues as bank loan by means of paddy receipt sheets by the State agency Supplyco and this impractical system has created untold miseries for paddy farmers and paddy receipt sheet system must be revoked and paddy farmers must be paid their dues directly in their bank accounts immediately after procurement of paddy. The Central Government must take immediate steps in releasing any funds that are in arrears for the State Government to disburse the arrears payout at the earliest. The compensation of Rs. 50 lakhs must be given to the families of farmers who have committed suicide for not receiving a bank loan due to adverse credit rating caused by the failure of State Government in repaying PRS dues on time which resulted in impacted CIBIL score of innocent farmers who were denied loans. The Government must also declare a moratorium on repayment of loans to be repaid by paddy farmers of Kerala State till such time the crisis of repayment of dues is settled.