

Need to establish a National Cardamom Board

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): The National Turmeric Board was established recently. However, a cash crop of great national importance, Cardamom is still under the Spices Board. Idukki is the district that contributes more than 70 per cent cardamom production of India. It is an important crop that is an integral part of many cuisines across the country and the world.

Cardamom cultivation is beset with many a challenges that require a holistic approach to solve. Both the backward linkage like assistance for cultivation and forward linkages like marketing support is required to ensure the growth of cardamom cultivation in the country. Cardamom cultivation and processing is a highly skilled agricultural enterprise that requires great research and extension support. The Spices Board is only marginally able to support this requirement. I urge upon the Government to take immediate action in this regard and establish a National Cardamom Board at the earliest.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dr. D. Ravikumar ji ? not present.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray ji.