

Title: Need to protect the interests of plantation industry, particularly in Kerala.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Government is very well aware of problems faced by plantation industry in Kerala. Plantation industry has represented to the Government. The Government should :-

1. instruct banks to extend necessary financial assistance at simple interest rates;
2. set up a plantation bank;
3. extend necessary customs/excise duties concessions;
4. find ways and means to increase the export;
5. allocate adequate funds for research and development in plantation sector to increase production; and
6. extend adequate financial assistance to State of Kerala for growth of plantation.