

Title: Request the Government to comply with the directions of the Kerala High Court and Supreme Court and declare the floor price for rubber at the earliest.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing, except what Shri K. Francis George is speaking, would go on record.

*(Interruptions) â€**

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, the Union Commerce Ministry is planning to declare a statutory minimum price ...*(Interruptions)* There has been a demand of the farmers for the last several years to mitigate the hardship of the rubber growers...*(Interruptions)* It is the duty of the Central Government to...*(Interruptions)*

* Not Recorded

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the remarks made by Shri Patil are objectionable. They should be expunged from the records...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, I would go through the records and if there is anything objectionable it could be expunged.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, so I would like the Union Government to comply with the directions of the Supreme Court immediately and declare a Statutory Floor Price for rubber...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George, please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, the Union Commerce Ministry has been directed by the Supreme Court to declare floor price for rubber under section 13 of the Rubber Act...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chaturvedi, please take your seat.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHU): Sir, I want to raise a very important issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called his name. After him you can get a chance.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy has raised this point. I have already told that I will go through the records and if there is anything objectionable, it can be expunged.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, now the Ministry of Commerce is planning to declare a statutory minimum price. We must understand the distinction between these two. If floor price is declared, then the Government would be legally bound to procure rubber when the price of rubber falls below the floor price.

Sir, to circumvent this direction of the Supreme Court, the Commerce Ministry now, it has been reported in the Press, is planning to declare a statutory minimum price. This is a blatant violation of the direction of the Supreme Court and that of the direction of the Kerala High Court. To declare the minimum floor price has been the demand of nine lakh rubber farmers who are now in a fair amount of distress for several years. The Government has been saying off and on that they are considering the demands of the rubber farmers.

Sir, there was a practice before 1991 when the Government every year used to declare the floor price. But now after the onset of the liberalisation policy, this practice has been done away with...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George, this is not a debate. Please understand that. Would you like to say everything during the `Zero Hour' only?

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, I would like to request the Government to comply with the directions of the Kerala High Court and the Supreme Court and declare the floor price for rubber at the earliest.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

1308 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hours

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at

Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the Adjournment Motion. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi to initiate the discussion.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (JAGATSINGHPUR): Sir, what about Matters Under Rule 377?

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (SONEPAT): Sir, will the Matters Under Rule 377 be taken as laid on the Table of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: We will take it up after the Adjournment Motion.