

Title: Need to protect the interests of workers engaged in Tea Plantation in Tamil Nadu -Laid.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI) : The wage agreement ended on 31.12.2002 for the workers of the tea plantation in Tamil Nadu. The owners of tea plantation have taken a unilateral decision of reducing the daily wages from Rs.75 to Rs.64. The poor workers in Valparai in my Pollachi constituency have not agreed to receive the pay from 1.1.2002.

Sir, they are starving with their family. I request the Government to intervene and help the wage to be increased as above Rs.75 and beyond that in view of the reduction in Excise duty to 1% and imposition of import duty from 75% to 100% on tea.