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Title: Regarding the report submitted by the Task Force on tea and coffee industry.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the other day, I raised the issue of the plight of the poor tea and coffee growers in our country. The Ministry of Commerce has appointed a Task Force to go into various problems being faced by the growers. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government. It is the duty of the Government to take this House into confidence on this issue.

Today, during 'Zero Hour', Shri Dasmunsi had rightly pointed out as to how callous this Government is. When the House is in Session, propriety demands that these kinds of reports concerning lakhs and lakhs of agricultural workers and farmers should be placed before the House so that each Member can go through it. The Task Force report is a very important one because it contains rehabilitation proposals and when implemented properly, it will not only give support but also rehabilitate the workers and the farmers.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I would request the Government, in all fairness, to place the Task Force Report before the House so that the Members can go through that and they can also make proper suggestions, if necessary.

**13.00 hrs.**

Sir, the farmers are suffering a lot. Even though the hon. Minister had promised to do a lot of things, nothing so far has been done. No banks are giving any kind of help to the farmers, especially to the coffee producers, and the tea industry is also facing a lot of problems. About 24,000 tea workers are in distress. They do not have any work. They are not getting their salaries and the owners of the tea gardens have left the tea gardens. The people are starving. In view of this, the Government of India should take some important measures without any further delay. The report of the Inter-ministerial Task Force may be placed before this august House so that the Members of the House could go through that Report.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, this matter was brought to the notice of the concerned Minister and there was also a discussion on this in the House but nothing has materialised so far.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You also can associate yourself with Shri Chennithala.