

Title: Requested to increase the floor price fixed for rubber as per the direction of the High Court of Kerala.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I have given a notice because my subject was minority issue.

MR. SPEAKER: You have given a notice on rubber. You should speak on rubber only.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: He should not stretch it too much.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, the farmers cultivating rubber are facing serious difficulties. The Government has declared a floor price. But there is a rule that as per the notification it should be published in the official Gazette. That has not been done so far. Since it has not been published in the official Gazette, the Government is not duty-bound to give that price. But if it is published in the official Gazette, as statutorily required, then the Government will be duty bound to see that the farmer gets at least that minimum support price.

So, I request the Government of India to immediately take necessary action to notify the already declared price, though it is far too low. We are requesting that the price should be increased. But even the price which has already been declared is not published. There has been a direction from the hon. High Court of Kerala directing the Government of India to do this. But they have not done.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, through you, Sir, to intimate the Minister of Commerce so that immediate action will be taken and the Government will not be answerable for contempt of court also.