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Title : Fall in prices of Vanilla, Cardamom and Pepper.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, tender coconut water is very sweet, and we all now enjoy it on the flights also because it is available there. Why do they not popularise it throughout India? If crores of people in India get accustomed to it, then I think the coconut-growing farmers will be saved. I am saying this because the farmers are now in great difficulty. Each inch of coconut is of importance, and it is very palatable. It is very tasty, and it is useful from the health point of view also ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please put your demand.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, the farmers of coconut, pepper, cardamom, vanilla, and all such cash crops are in great difficulty and hardship. The farmers are committing suicide because they are not getting good prices for the same. Why is the Government not coming forward to popularise these items among the people?

There was an advertisement issued by the Spices Board, which stated "*Elam oru sheelam aaku*". It was in Malayalam, which meant : "Make cardamom a habit."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your demand?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, this was the advertisement issued, and it had a big effect on the people to popularise cardamom. Why not popularise each of these items, and create domestic market for all these items?

I would appeal to the Government of India to popularise these items. Large amounts are shown in the Budget, but no amount is reaching the ground level.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Thomas, it is just repetition. Please sit down. Nothing more should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)* \*â€

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, please give me one minute. The Government should take some initiative to popularise these items. It will also help the farmers who are facing a lot of difficulty. I would submit, through you, that the Government should take a serious note of this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Thomas, it is sheer repetition. Next is Shri Ram Kripal Yadav. I will be able to give you only one minute to speak.