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Title: Need to implement the Interim recommendations made by Dr. Swaminathan Committee on Eco-Conservation and livelihood crisis in Kuttanad, Kerala.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture who is sitting here in the House regarding the need to implement the interim recommendations of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Committee on Eco-Conservation and livelihood crisis of Kuttanad. The Government of India had constituted a multi-disciplinary team to study and suggest programmes for Eco-Conservation and Development of Kuttanad Wetlands of Alappuzha District in Kerala where there was a severe agrarian crisis.[R3]

M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai headed by renowned scientists Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, who has just now been nominated to Rajya Sabha, has already submitted its interim recommendations to the Government of India so as to commence the rehabilitation programmes at the earliest to benefit the farmers during the current agricultural season itself. The report comprised essentially of the infrastructural modifications to be done to protect the paddy fields from salt water intrusion and flood situation which are the main reasons for crop failure in Kuttanad. This has to be done urgently to salvage the current crops.

*Not recorded

So, I urge upon the Government to implement the interim recommendations

of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Committee report on Eco-Conservation and Livelihood crisis in Kuttanad.