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Title: Regarding the problems being faced by the farmers in Theni Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI R. PARTHIPAN (THENI): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir. Thank you for this opportunity. I thank Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma for this opportunity to raise an important issue in this august House. In my Theni constituency, fruits like mango, jack fruit, banana and grapes are grown in large scale. Due to change in climatic conditions these fruits do not get remunerative price. I urge that in order to protect the farmers a cold storage facility should be set up in Theni district. To make use of large scale fruit production in this area, a fruit juice factory should be set up. I also urge the Union government to take necessary measures for exporting banana in large scale from his area to foreign countries. I urge the Union government to set up an Agricultural University in Theni constituency. Cash crops are grown in Theni area surrounded by dense forests of Western Ghats. Very often wild animals destroy these cash crops and due to which farmers incur heavy losses. Even general public are affected by animal-human conflicts. I urge that the Department of Forests should take necessary measures to protect farmers, general public and standing cash crops from the attacks of wild animals. As Theni district is in the border of Kerala, many farmers are into cardamom cultivation. The Union government, besides putting restrictions for cardamom pods in open market, should increase the Minimum Support Price for Cardamom pods. Thank you.