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Title: Need to ban import of natural rubber.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to a burning issue regarding the sad plight of rubber farmers across the country. The fall in price of natural rubber has caused deep distress to more than 10 lakh rubber farmers in Kerala and elsewhere. The decision of Government to allow indiscriminate import of rubber is helping industrial sector and corporate houses. The small and marginal rubber farmers are on the verge of abject poverty and it is impossible for them to eke out a livelihood. I urge upon the Government to put a ban on indiscriminate import of natural rubber.