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Title: Need to announce a revival package for the flagging cashew industry of Kerala.

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** I would like to highlight the problems being faced by Cashew industry in the country. Cashew industry employs around 5 lakh workers, mostly women and from among Dalit communities. Out of this, around 2 lakh people are from Kollam district of Kerala alone. Now the industry is facing severe crisis and the factories are on the verge of closure. The reason is that the factory management imports raw cashew from foreign countries at higher price, process here and make finished product before marketing it. Now the finished product is not cost effective compared to the production cost and the owners are running into huge loss. This has forced them to close down the factories as a result thousands of families are falling into debt. Hence, I urge Ministry of Commerce and Industry to intervene in the matter urgently and announce a revival package for the cashew industry.