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Title: Regarding increasing the import duty of refined oil and decreasing the import duty of crude palm oil.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (ERNAKULAM): Thank you, hon. Madam, for allowing me to speak on a matter of urgent public importance.

Madam, India is one of the biggest importers of both crude and refined palm oil and other edible oils. We are trying to promote palm tree cultivation as well as improve our refining capacity. But, the major palm oil producing countries like Malaysia and Indonesia are increasing the export duty of crude palm oil and decreasing the export duty of refined palm oil. This will badly affect both our palm tree cultivators and edible oil refining capacity of the country. It will also cause the price to rise of edible oil.

The Government of India should take adequate steps by increasing the import duty of refined oil and decreasing the import duty of crude palm oil.