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Title: Regarding plight of Jasmine farmers in Madurai

SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): Sir, I would like to speak about the plight of jasmine farmers in Madurai District, particularly in Thirumangalam and Thirupparankundram. During the entire COVID period – during the lockdown and post-lockdown – the plight of these farmers is such that their lives have been destroyed. The Government as well as the officials are not giving any importance to them.

Hon. Prime Minister during his Independence Day Speech spoke about a district hub for export, calling it export hub. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry to take care of the jasmine growers in Madurai District, particularly in Thirumangalam and Thirupparankundram, and have a special programme to make an SPV for the export of jasmine from Madurai. As per the Sangam literature, even 2,000 years earlier, the jasmine produced in Madurai was world famous and was being exported across the world. This is the case historically also, but the lives of the farmers producing it and small traders are miserable today under this Government which has completely ruined their lives by their unplanned lockdown and their sufferings have been increasing multi-fold.

Sir, I would like to request, through you, the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry to take the announcement of hon. Prime Minister which he made on the Independence Day and make

Thirumangalam and Thirupparankundram export hubs for jasmine industry.

Thank you.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री डी.एन.वी. सेंथिलकुमार एस. को श्री बी. मणिकम टैगोर द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।

राज्य सभा में जो माननीय सदस्य बैठे हैं, अगर मेरी बात सुन रहे हों, उनको मैं देख रहा हूँ, मैं उनसे आग्रह कर रहा हूँ कि वे बहुत नजदीक बैठे हुए हैं । वे सामाजिक दूरी की पालना करें । राज्य सभा में बैठे हुए माननीय सदस्यों को आखें यहां भी देख रही हैं ।

श्री गोपाल जी ठाकुर ।