

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to set up a common facilitation centre, Rubber Park, and a Rubber cluster centre in Kanyakumari.

SHRI H. VASANTHAKUMAR (KANYAKUMARI): Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you.

Kanyakumari is the only District in Tamil Nadu where rubber is produced and roughly 24,000 tonnes of rubber is produced annually. Though rubber is grown in plenty in Kanyakumari, no step has been taken to harness its availability. A few years ago, the Rubber Board at Kottayam in Kerala formulated a project to set up a Rubber Park in Kanyakumari and it sent its proposal also. But nothing came out of it.

Kanyakumari has no major industry. It is an industrially backward region. Moreover, rubber is grown in reserved and private forests in Kanyakumari and thousands of workers are engaged in rubber industry in Kanyakumari.

In view of the availability of rubber in Kanyakumari, I urge upon the Government to set up a Common Facilitation Centre and also a Rubber Cluster Centre in Kanyakumari under the MSME sector.

Setting up of Rubber Park can also be considered under the Public- Private Partnership mode by giving suitable tax incentives. Moreover, rubber should not be imported as it could affect the domestic producers. The Minimum Support Price given for rubber is very less and it should be increased to Rs. 200 – Rs. 250 per kg. for natural rubber. Thank you.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री चन्देश्वर प्रसाद – उपस्थित नहीं ।

श्री हनुमान बेनीवाल (नागौर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी सीट पर आ गया हूं ।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको पहली बार में अच्छी सीट मिल गई है ।

...(व्यवधान)