

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Problems faced by Farmers due to declaration of Ecologically Sensitive Area and Ecological Sensitive Zone.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैं लिस्टेड शून्य काल चला रहा हूँ, लेकिन एक मिनट से ज्यादा किसी को समय नहीं मिलेगा। माइक वाले एक मिनट में ही बंद कर देंगे। आप आपनी बात को एक मिनट में समाप्त कर दें।

एडवोकेट डीन कुरियाकोस ।

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): Thank you, Sir. The declaration of Ecologically Sensitive Area and Ecologically Sensitive Zones is adversely affecting the livelihood of the farming community every time.

Our State Governments are including the people-inhabited areas to Ecologically Sensitive Zones. Very recently, the Kerala Government has done that. In my constituency, more than 20 villages including Kanjikuzhi, Idukki, Kumily, and Kuttampuzha have been included in Ecologically Sensitive Zones. It should be re-corrected and avoided by a physical verification. That is my first demand.

My second demand is regarding ESA declaration. It is time for the final notification. The process had been started in 2014 and the first draft notification came out on 2014. The ESA in Kerala is spread over an area of 9,993.7 square kilometers. It excluded the people-inhabited areas but subsequently four other draft notifications came out. The final notification is delayed. If the final notification is delayed unnecessarily, the Supreme Court may intervene in this case like it did in the buffer zone case. If it is coming and adversely affecting the livelihood of people, we cannot do anything. That is why, my request to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is this. We should have a final notification by excluding the people-inhabited areas. The Government of India has already appointed a committee here. That Committee is still functioning but the final notification should come out by excluding the people-inhabited areas in case of ESA. That is my demand.