

Title: Need to declare a moratorium on all outstanding debts of farmers, particularly in Kerala. – Laid.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (TRICHUR) : Peasants are committing suicide all over India, including in Kerala. It has been admitted that this happens mainly due to the fact that the peasantry in India today is in debt trap.

Indebtedness is in sharp increase, as the cost of agriculture is shooting up, and agriculture price is falling steeply, while Government stopped most of the subsidies to agriculture. In this context, it is necessary that the Government of India declare moratorium on all outstanding debts of peasants until a comprehensive legislation on agricultural indebtedness is brought about, which should have provision for writing off debts of the peasants upto Rs. 1,00,000/- and guarantee for liberal credit in future, at the rate of 4% interest.