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Title: Need to take action for the revival of closed and abandoned tea gardens in Idukki Parliamentary Constituency and other parts of Kerala.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI): I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the revival of closed and abandoned tea gardens in the country. Around eleven companies including three in my constituency i.e. Idukki in Kerala have closed or abandoned tea plantations spread over more than one lakh acres. This has added to the miseries of the underpaid plantation workers estimated over one lakh. Some of these tea gardens are located in far flung areas. The unrest and deprivation in the plantations have been capitalized by undesirable elements and the insurgent groups. An effective action in the matter will be helpful in building confidence among the tea garden workers and their dependents. It is vital to have a cohesive management and administrative structure for these abandoned and closed tea gardens. I request the Government to take immediate action for the revival of closed and abandoned tea gardens and to get their statutory dues.