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Title: Need to address the problems being faced by the coconut growers in the country.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the struggle of coconut farmers due to steep fall in the price of coconut. Steady fall in the price of coconut in recent months has put the farmers in a critical situation. The high price of fertilizer and labour charges aggravated the situation and farmers are unable to meet the production cost at the current price of coconut. The import of palm oil with zero import duty is the main reason for price fall of coconut and it should be controlled. I request to consider for allowing subsidy for raw coconut to overcome the criticism situation. It is necessary to provide more support and assistance to farmers for producing value added items of coconut. I also request the Government to consider the distribution of coconut oil through PDS in the country with subsidy.