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Title: Need to take suitable measures to assist the coconut farmers in Kerala.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Coconut farmers in Kerala are facing a very serious situation due to the sharp decline in the prices of the Coconut. It has been reduced to Rs. 3 per coconut which was earlier Rs. 12. The farmers are unable to repay the bank loans. They are not able to purchase fertilizer due to the rise in the prices of fertilizer. The price rise of all other essential inputs also adversely affects the farmers in the sector. The import of palm oil is a big blow to the coconut farmers. This problem not only affects the coconut farmers but also the financial condition of the State. So I urge the Government to take immediate steps to assist the coconut farmers as well as the State.