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Title: Need to protect coconut farmers and take immediate action to ban and stop the import of palm oil and palm Kernel oil.

SHRI C. MAHENDRAN (POLLACHI): Thank you Chairman Sir. First of all, I thank my leader Hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

At present, the Union Government is importing palm oil used for cooking purpose. The Union Government has also permitted to import palm kernel oil by the private companies which is commonly used in commercial cooking because of its relatively low cost and remains stable at high cooking temperatures and can be stored longer than other vegetable oil. Ninety per cent of the imported palm kernel oil is adulterated and mixed with other cooking oils and they are selling it for higher rate. If we use these oils continuously, it will create adverse effect in the body.

Chairman Sir, coconut oil is good for health. So, the Union Government should take immediate action to ban and stop the import of palm oil and palm kernel oil.

So, I request the Agriculture Minister and Commerce Minister, through this august House, that the import of Palm oil and Palm Kernel oil should be stopped or import duty of these oil should be raised and steps should be taken for supplying of coconut oil through Fair Price Shops across the country, so that the coconut farmers life and their income will Improve. Thanking you.