

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding price of coffee.

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR): This year's steep decline in yield of coffee is attributed to erratic weather conditions and high temperature. The prevailing bearish trend in prices is largely attributed to a surge in global output, which is seen heading for a record in 2017-18. The price is below the cost of production and as a result, the growers are finding it difficult to service their debts. With a dip in the prices of coffee, the growers' community is highly disappointed. They are demanding proactive measures to stop illegal import.

Coffee growers want the Government to consider a Minimum Support Price or a Price Compensation Scheme for the commodity to alleviate their distress. I urge the Centre to look into a MSP Or a Support Price Scheme for Coffee to help rescue the growers. I urge the Government to consider interest waiver on loans till the current year and extend loans on a concessional interest rate for 2018-19.