

Sharmaji, let him say. ...(Interruptions)... Why are you interrupting like this? Let him say. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: There was no question of zero per cent Import Duty when India was the second largest exporter of wheat. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: पहले उनको बोलने तो दीजिए। कृपया आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: In December last year, the Finance Minister had made a statement. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sharmaji, let him say. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सर, हमारा कहना यह है कि इस बार गेहूं की पैदावार बहुत होने की संभावना है, 967 लाख टन हुआ है और पहले का जो ओपनिंग स्टॉक है, वह 65 लाख टन है। मैं आपसे सहमत हूँ, हम लोग सिर्फ wait कर रहे थे, चूंकि अभी गेहूं मार्केट में आ रहा है, कहीं ऐसा न हो कि कभी बारिश हो जाए, कभी ओला पड़ जाए और फिर संकट आ जाए, इसलिए जो आपने कहा है कि इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी बढ़ाने की बात कही है, यह सरकार के विचाराधीन है और हम लोग इस पर तुरंत निर्णय लेने जा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, Shri T. K. Rangarajan. ...(Interruptions)... इस पर डिस्कशन नहीं हो सकता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: आपने दिसम्बर में इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी जीरो परसेंट की है, उसको आप क्यों नहीं खत्म कर रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... कहां ओले पड़े? ...(व्यवधान)... आप उसको खत्म क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri T. K. Rangarajan, please start. ...(Interruptions)... You start, otherwise you will lose time. Why don't you start?

**Need to fix minimum support price of copra at
₹ 120 per kilo to benefit coconut cultivators**

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to bring to the kind notice of this august House the plight of the coconut cultivators, particularly in the Southern States - Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh - which contribute 88 per cent of the coconut production of this country. In this, Tamil Nadu contributes 34 per cent of the production and it is the highest in India. The coconut production and other related activities give employment to 15 million people. In the year 2015-16, exports of oil and other coir products have earned a foreign exchange of ₹ 3,352 crores.

The coconut cultivators are in miserable conditions and the Minimum Support Price for copra has been raised by only four per cent which is very uneconomic, considering the cost of production. In view of the distress, the coconut cultivators

[Shri T. K. Rangarajan]

are demanding a reasonable Minimum Support Price of copra at ₹ 120 per kilo. I request the Government to examine the issue sympathetically. Further, the Coconut Development Board in Cochin must actively involve itself in looking after the welfare of the coconut farmers. The State Trading Corporation may be involved in the export promotion of coconut. The Committee, for fixing the Minimum Support Price may conduct its meetings in South India, Tamil Nadu, instead of conducting meetings only in Delhi. The Coconut Development Board must allocate more funds to Tamil Nadu in view of Tamil Nadu being the highest producer of coconut.

In this connection, the coconut cultivators have obtained an order from the High Court of Madras, Writ Petition 21958 of 2016, directing the Government to announce the MSP before December, 2016.

I request the Government to consider all the above issues. I also request the House to support this issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, the House is supporting. All are supporting. ...*(Interruptions)*... All those names who support will be added.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

श्री नरेंद्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI LA. GANESAN (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri T. K. Rangarajan.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri P. L. Punia. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, Mr. K. K. Ragesh is also associating. Now, Shri P. L. Punia...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your name is there. You are associating. That is enough. It is clear.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, the State Trading Corporation is importing coconut oil and also the palm oil, which affects the price of ...*(Interruptions)*... It has to be banned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: पी. एल. पुनिया जी, अब आप स्टार्ट कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Mr. Ragesh, sit down.

**Need for an independent inquiry into the death of Rohit Vemula of
Hyderabad Central University**

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ, क्योंकि पिछले दो हफ्ते से मैं इस इश्यू के लिए नोटिस दे रहा था और आज आपने मुझे इस पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसलिए मैं आपका बहुत आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ।

सर, हैदराबाद सेन्ट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी के कैम्पस में रोहित वेमुला ने पिछले साल 2016 में 17 जनवरी को आत्महत्या की थी। पूरे देश में इस पर चिन्ता व्यक्त की गई, सब जगह इसका विरोध हुआ और 11 दिन बाद, 28 जनवरी, 2016 को HRD Ministry ने Justice Roopenwal की