

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding the pitiable condition of Farmers in Tamil Nadu.

***_SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (ERODE):** The announcement of the Union Government to double the income of farmers still remains a mere announcement. They have not increased the income of farmers in any way. Doubling the farmers' income, enhancing the production of agricultural products by way of increasing the productivity, and minimizing the input cost, are some of the announcements which remain mere announcements without any benefit. They are just on paper. Uncertain north-eastern monsoon, heavy rains, etc. have resulted in heavy loss to the farmers as their standing crops have been totally inundated and damaged. The Pradhan Mantri Agricultural Insurance Scheme, announced by this Government has become a failure and the farmers are in a debt-ridden state. As part of the Scheme to double the income of farmers Atmanirbhar Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Samman Nidhi, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sanjay Yojana are some of the Schemes of the Union Government which have not reaped the desired results for farmers. The names of these Schemes are in a language which cannot be easily understood by farmers. Even the farmers don't have awareness about these Schemes, they are unable to get benefits through these Schemes. I therefore urge that the Schemes of the Union Government should be in the language that can be easily understood by the farmers of this country. Taking into consideration the seriousness of this issue, the Government should name the Schemes in a language easily understandable by the farmers. Hybrid and effective seeds introduced as part of Green Revolution, insecticides,

fertilizers, etc. are being sold at higher prices. This Government has failed to control the price rise of these products. Agricultural input cost has increased the production cost. As a result of their inability to repay the agricultural loans due to income loss, the farmers are committing suicides. Every year several thousands of farmers commit suicide. Farmers have lost interest to engage themselves in agriculture continuously, due to which they are leaving agriculture and opting for some other wage related work. In this scenario, farmers are not in a position to repay the agricultural loans availed by them from the nationalized banks, private banks, cooperative banks, and other financial organizations. Therefore, the Union Government should waive all the loans availed by farmers by way of financial package. Moreover, the Government should also announce a remunerative and just price for agricultural products produced by farmers. Dr. M.S Swaminathan Committee was set up to frame guidelines for fixing the price of agricultural products. As per the Report of the Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Committee, 50 per cent cost should be added over and above the production cost, and the price of the agricultural produce should be fixed. On that price thus fixed, the Government should procure all the agricultural produce from the farmers. Thank you, Sir.