

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding problems being faced by coffee growers -laid.

SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA (MYSORE) : It has come to my attention that Karnataka is home to 70% Coffee production of India. There are 3,50,000 Coffee Growers in India out of which 9.5 % of them are small scale growers owning less than 10 hectares of land. Coffee is grown in 4,00,000 hectares of land in India.

Due to removal of Agriculture from the ambit of CIBIL rating, Growers are unable to repay either the Principal Amount or Interest amounts, resulting in account status turning NPA. This is getting reflected in lowering of their credit scores in the CIBIL rating system.

Due to three heavy monsoon and COVID-19 pandemic as well as low prices, pest and diseases, coffee grower are suffering from cash crunch.

Coffee Growers have availed about Rs. 10,000 crores worth of loans from Commercial and Co-Operative banks. The total interest on this amount is about Rs. 1,200 crores.