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Title: Need to set up food processing units in Araku Parliamentary Constituency.

KUMARI GODDETI MADHAVI (ARAKU): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an issue regarding certain agricultural crops that require urgent attention in my Parliamentary constituency, Araku.

In my constituency, the main agricultural products are turmeric, jackfruit, cashew nut and pineapple. These crops are produced in huge quantities. For example, almost 5000 metric tonnes of turmeric is produced in my constituency alone and it is known to be of superior grade and the second best across the country. Another example is jackfruit where 4500 metric tonnes are produced. In addition, 8000 to 10000 metric tonnes of pineapples are produced, and 2500 metric tonnes of cashew nuts are produced.

However, due to lack of food processing facilities, the farmers are not able to get a remunerative price. The key lies in having value added products and ensuring better market access.

I would like to request, through you, the hon. Minister of Food Processing Industries to help us in setting up these units in my constituency, Araku.

Thank you, Sir.