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Title: Regarding pathetic condition of farmers due to draught and water crisis in Mandya Parliamentary Constituency.

SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH (MANDYA) : Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak for the first time in this august House.

*At the outset, I congratulate all the people of Mandya Parliamentary constituency. I feel proud for my people who are known for self respect. I would like to express my thanks to all of them.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Union Government to the ongoing burning issue in my State of Karnataka, particularly in my constituency of Mandya which is basically an agrarian district.

Sir, we have had several deficit monsoons over the past few years and this year, we are looking at a huge water crisis and impending drought conditions, which are already present in my region.  This presents a very bleak

scenario for the farmers,    basically the sugarcane and paddy growers, who

already are caught up in a vicious cycle of inadequate pricing for their produce, defunct sugar mills, failure to repay bank loans and the inability of the State Government to fulfil loan-waiver promises. Besides this, there are looming drinking water crisis and scarcity of fodder for cattle.  I fear, we have a readymade formula for hundreds and

thousands of desperate farmers' suicides. We need to address this immediately.

Through you, Sir, I would earnestly appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, to the hon. Jal Shakti Minister and to all the concerned authorities to provide immediate relief measures, compensatory measures and heed to their cries of help on an emergency scale. We have to save our *Annadata,* give him back his right to dignity, right to live. Otherwise, it is not just the monsoons which would be failing them but we collectively would also be failing them.

*Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Hind, Jai Karnataka.* Thank you, Sir.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** डॉ. किरिट पी. सोलंकी को श्रीमती सुमलता अम्बरीश द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।