

**Request to provide a suitable financial package to help the farmers affected by drought situation**

**SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH (MANDYA):** Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, according to the global climate report published by the UN this year, 2023 has been the hottest ever year on record. The impact of this has been felt in all the corners of the world.

Sir, my State Karnataka has witnessed a very weak monsoon and 223 out of 236 taluks have been affected by the drought resulting in an estimated loss of about Rs. 30,000 crore. My Constituency Mandya is amongst the worst affected places where all the *taluks* have been declared drought-hit, and farmers are in extreme distress. About 50 to 75 per cent of the standing crop has been lost. The farmers of my constituency are primarily sugarcane growers and hence, do not receive the insurance benefits available under the PM Fasal Bima Yojana also. Furthermore, we are facing crisis in several areas without water to drink, wash or cook.

Sir, at this critical juncture, we look up to the Government of India. My heartfelt appeal to the hon. Prime Minister of India is to come to the aid of our farmers and provide a suitable financial package to help them out of this situation. Also, we want your concurrence for better utilisation of water from our rivers to support the basic needs of the farmers and the people of my State. Thank you. \_

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