

**Title: Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Karnataka to meet drought situation prevailing in the State.**

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (GULBARGA): Karnataka is facing drought in various parts of the State. The State Government of Karnataka has revealed that major parts of the northern Karnataka including Bellary, Gulbarga and Raichur have received less than one per cent of the normal rainfall. All the sowings of *Kharif* crop has been totally damaged due to shortfall of rain. Therefore, the areas in Karnataka, especially northern Karnataka, have become drought affected. This Kharif crop is more useful for feeding the animals. Due to shortfall of rains, the farmers as well as the animals have been severely affected. The farmers of these areas have become helpless. This drought will make the people of the area jobless and they will go outside to earn money. In order to make them stay in the area, the Union Government should provide financial assistance and alternative work to them.

The State Government of Karnataka has submitted a report to the Union Government in the month of July giving the details of the drought conditions prevailing in many parts of the State.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to kindly consider the report sent by the Karnataka Government and take immediate necessary measures to help the State in meeting the drought conditions.