

Title: Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief to the people whose crops have been affected by hailstorms - Laid.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (SAGAR) : The hailstorm which swept over several districts of Madhya Pradesh has caused considerable damage to crops, cattle and houses in over 2500 villages of 26 districts in the State. The crops damaged and loss assessed have been assessed at Rs. 82.87 crore.

The assistance provided by the State Government is not adequate to meet the requirement. The State needs at least Rs. 80 crores to deal with the problem arising out of hailstorm.

The food for work programme should be launched in that State and at least 45,000 metric tones of foodgrain should be released for this purpose. In addition, allocation of 63, 000 metric tonnes of foodgrain under Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana should also be released. I urge upon the Government of India to enhance allocation under various centrally sponsored schemes to Madhya Pradesh and also to introduce Crops Insurance Scheme in that State without any further delay.