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**Title:** Need to provide Central assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to tackle the drought situation in the State

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): This is the third consecutive year that drought prevailed in the Andhra Pradesh State. As the rainfall was minus seven, deficient and scanty in many mandals, the total crop loss on account of severe drought conditions in the State is to the tune of Rs.966.12 crores. Besides, due to insufficient rains, the farming community and agricultural labour community have been rendered unemployed and are suffering for want of succor/livelihood. It has also affected 6.7 lakh cattle population and fodder scarcity. The deficient rainfall has also affected drinking water supply position adversely. The Andhra Pradesh Government have spent all the available sources at its disposal and now looks forward for Central assistance.

We, therefore, request the Union Government that an amount of Rs.996.12 crores may be granted as Central assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). It is also requested that 15.00 lakh metric tonnes of rice may please be sanctioned for taking up Employment General Works under SGRY (SC) in the coming months which would help the unemployed agricultural workers as well as the old aged people, blind people and infirm who are worst hit in this drought situation.