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Title: Need to protect the interest of Poultry Industry by withdrawing excise duty and VAT on fodder items- Laid.

SHRI A.P. JITENDER REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR) : Poultry industry in the country is facing serious set back due to steep increase in the maize and other fodder materials. At this juncture, if the producers of eggs and broilers do not get proper rates, the state of industry will certainly deteriorate. At the same time, middlemen are also affecting the industry a lot and many farmers are going out of business. In these circumstances, Government should take appropriate steps to save the industry and farmers by encouraging incentives. Nearly 20 lakhs of farmers are dependent on this poultry business. Nearly Rs.12,000/- crores of Gross Domestic Revenue is coming out of this business. Hence, there is every need to withdraw the Excise Duty and Value Added Tax on the fodder items.

In view of the above, I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Agriculture to look into the ways to evolve the withdrawal of Excise Duty and save the poultry farmers from their present crisis.