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Title: Need to address the problems of Cotton growers in the Country.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister the plight and distress of the cotton farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

The Cotton Corporation of India is not purchasing cotton since one month. Due to heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh recently, the cotton has moisture. Now they are not giving MSP due to this moisture; they are allowing moisture only up to 8 per cent. So, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also requested the Union Government to enhance the moisture content up to 20 per cent. Then only they will get the MSP.

Even the godown facility is also not fully available. That is why, they are not procuring the cotton. Even they are not giving money for the gunny bags. Gunny bags are purchased by the farmers. When they go to the market, they have to pay money for the gunny bag also. They are taking the gunny bag; they are not giving the money. They are not giving the MSP also.

There is shortage of packing material also. Lakhs of tonnes of cotton is lying in the market.

I would, therefore, urge the Union Government, through you, to kindly ask the CCI to intervene and purchase the cotton; otherwise the farmers will be in distress. Even now the cotton farmers are committing suicide. That is why the Government of India should take necessary steps.[\[r62\]](#)