

Title: Problems being faced by Tobacco growers of Cooch Bihar, West Bengal due to lack of a Government agency to oversee purchase operations.

SHRI HITEN BARMAN (COOCH BEHAR): Sir, in my constituency, Cooch Behar, farmers are mainly depending on tobacco which is a cash crop. There is no infrastructure of the Government in Cooch Behar to purchase tobacco from the farmers. They are bound to sell their crop at a low price to the middlemen due to which they are not getting a proper rate. Thus, they are facing losses. Last year, the farmers had sold their crop at the rate of Rs. 3000 per quintal and this time, they are getting the rate as something between Rs. 1800 to Rs. 2000 per quintal which is very less.

I urge upon the Government to make some arrangement in Cooch Behar for purchasing the crop from the farmers at the support price so that they can get a profitable price for their crop and also can get back the money they have invested.