

Title : Need to give a special financial package to the flood affected State of Karnataka.

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR (DHARWAD SOUTH): Sir, I would like to bring to the kind attention of the hon. Minister for Agriculture that the people of Karnataka have suffered from heavy rainfall and the consequent floods in many regions. The maximum damage has been caused in Belgaum, Bijapur, and in many parts of North Karnataka. About 13000 villages have been affected and 130 people have lost their precious lives in the floods. Over 11,000 cattle have been killed. Over 90,000 houses got damaged and standing crops spreading over four lakh acres have been washed away. Public property including roads, buildings and bridges have also been damaged. The natural calamity has caused a huge loss of over Rs.3500 crore.

In Haveri District of my parliamentary constituency, due to heavy rainfall and floods in many talukas, maize, chillies, groundnut, jawar and other crops have been damaged. I would request that an amount of Rs.10,000 per acre may please be given by the Government of India.

Under the circumstances, I urge upon the Government of India to release a further sum of Rs.3500 crore and also announce a special package for the State of Karnataka, as was done for the Tsunami affected coastal areas of the country. Crop loan and interest burden of the farmers for the current year may also please be waived, which would help the farmers to tide over the crisis due to heavy rains and floods.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised a very important matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Uday Singh, you have to have patience.