Title: Reported suicides by handloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the handloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh are facing a lot of difficulties and they are in real distress. The rebate on handloom cloth is now reduced from Rs. 20 to Rs. 10. The scheme relating to 'Janata Cloth' is now disbanded as the subsidy has been drastically reduced [R21].

So far, about 432 weavers have committed suicides because of hunger. In view of these circumstances, I would request the Union Government to prepare a special package for the welfare of handloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh. Otherwise, the suicide deaths will continue. I once again request the Union Government to formulate a special package exclusively for the weavers in Andhra Pradesh.