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Title: Suicide by farmers and weavers in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Thank you, Sir. The hon. Minister of Finance is here.

Sir, till yesterday, 900 farmers and 200 weavers have committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh after the Congress Government came to power in the State on 14th May, 2004. This is a fact. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has announced a relief of Rs. 1,50,000 in each case. In addition to that, when the hon. Prime Minister went to Andhra Pradesh, the hon. Prime Minister has promised to give a sum of Rs. 50,000. So far, not a single pie has reached the affected families. Even the farmers are not getting remunerative price and they are not even getting the credit. The Chief Minister has recently written a letter to the Government of India regarding farmers growing cotton and paddy. But the Government's response is not there. It is high time that the attitude of the Government of India and the State Government should change.

The farmers are still committing suicides. On an average, ten farmers are committing suicide everyday. It is a shameful thing for all of us. The Government of India has not sent any team to know as to why they are committing suicides, why hundreds of people are doing this and what is the ground reality and what is the problem. There is no study done. In Independent India farmers are committing suicides and the Government is not reacting. Even after announcing moratorium also, the private moneylenders are not giving loans. The farmers are not getting any credit from the cooperative banks or from the nationalised banks. This is the factual situation prevailing in Andhra Pradesh.

Through you, I am urging upon the Government of India, with my folded hands to interact and react in the matter and safeguard the interests of the farmers and prevent them from committing suicides. Thank you.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VIJAYAWADA): What have you done in your Government? ...*(Interruptions)* You have not done anything.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, they are blaming the TDP Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You ignore it.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : We lost the power. You have to now prevent the suicides. The mandate is given to you. You should prevent the farmers from committing suicides. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Adhir Chowdhary to speak now. Nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions) €*

* Not Recorded