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Title: Reported apparent famine like situation due to bamboo flowering in Manipur.

SHRI MANI CHARENAMAI (OUTER MANIPUR): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a situation that is prevailing in the State of Manipur due to bamboo flowering.

Bamboo is grown in the districts of Tamanglong, Surchanpur and Chandel. In these districts the activity of growing bamboo flowers has been going on since 2005 till today. Due to this grey grass flowering, the number of rodents have multiplied. These rodents have destroyed the food grains, particularly the paddy fields in the hills. Due to that many of these tribal people, living in the remote areas, are suffering from starvation and famine-like situation. Here, most of the families, that is 95 per cent of the families, belong to the BPL. They are very poor. Their buying capacity is also very poor. So, the Government has to rush essential commodities, particularly rice, to these sub-divisions, namely Tanglong, Tipoy mukh, Parbung and Hangla of Surchanpur district and Taushim, Tamang and Loongma sub-divisions of Tamanglong district. People are living on wild fruits and wild vegetables in the jungles.

So, I urge upon the Government to send a team from the Centre to assess the loss of food grains and also to find out a permanent solution to this problem.

Sir, you may also remember that insurgency started in Mizoram because of this bamboo flowering. This has created a lot of problems in the North-East. So, I would like to urge upon and also draw the attention of the Government to do something for these people, who are languishing.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure the Government will take notice of it.

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan.