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Title: Need to give financial aid to farmers whose banana crop has been damaged due to spread of disease 'Karpa' in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra.

SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE (JALGAON): Banana is a predominant crop of Jalgaon District in the State of Maharashtra. Majority of farmer-families are dependent on this agricultural based crop round the year. This year around 60,000 hectares land is being cultivated for Banana out of which 40,000 hectares are being infected by Karpa (Black Spot) disease (Scientific Name Ciga-Toka) very heavily.

A team from Agriculture Ministry had conducted a survey in last month in the tehsil of Yawal, Raver, Chopada, Bhusawal and Jalgaon in State of Maharashtra. They have reported that the problems persist heavily and estimated that the losses of Banana being infected are to the tune of Rs. 300 crore.

Hence, through this August House, I request the hon. Minister to sanction the financial aid to compensate the losses incurred by farmers on account of Karpa disease at the earliest.

Through this House, I also request to provide assistance in strengthening the Research Centre at Allegan for Banana in the State of Maharashtra and to sanction the National Research Laboratory Centre for Banana at Jalgaon in the State of Maharashtra as this District is the largest grower and largest supplier of Banana in the country.