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Title: Regarding problems of Karnataka Khadi and Village Industries Ltd.

*SHRI M.SHIVANNA (CHAMRAJANAGAR) : Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue regarding waiving the interest of loans extended to the people who are running cottage and village industries. Sir, village and cottage industries are backbone of our rural economy. They are mainly dependent on agriculture. But now a days these industries are facing many hardships. Rs. 60,0000 loan waiver scheme has been announced by the Union Government. There is no mention about waiving the interest of the loan, and any measure to protect the interest of the cottage and village industries.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to provide at least 25% subsidy from the Government of India to the Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Small Industries Borrowers Federation. So that those who have borrowed loan they may feel a sigh of relief. Since Karnataka has been facing consecutive drought situation for the last 7-8 years, production in agriculture has come down. That is why it has become difficult to run the cottage industries. It affected the sales of production of these industries. In the lines of waiving the interest of coffee planters interest of the loans of cottage industries should be waived. These cottage industries have taken loans from Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Small Industries Borrowers Federation. Since the cottage industries are suffering great loss, they could not repay loans to the K&V Ind. Federation. Therefore the Government should come to the rescue of these industries and protect the interest of the farmers.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.