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Title: Damage caused to the crop by the deers in Hyderabad, Karnataka Region.

SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA (KOPPAL) : Thank you, Madam, we all consider that farmers are the backbone of our economic. But the condition of the farmers in Hyderabad Karnataka region particularly Koppal and Gadag district is very pathetic as deers the Black woks are destroying the standing crops of our farmers. Farmers are on the one hand suffering crop failure due to drought and heavy rain, on the other hand these deers are causing damage to the standing crops. In northern parts of Karnataka especially Koppal, Gadag, Ron, Sirahatii, Mundaragi, Yalaburga. Farmers are very much concerned as deer population has increased to the tune of 35,000 to 40,000. Herds of deers entre into the farm land to eat and destroy the standing crops in more than 7 lakh hectares of land. Foodgrains like, ground nut, Lentil, Dal channa, onion, chilli and wheat are damaged by them. It is a matter of great concern that our farmers having invested lots of money to raise the crops are devastated by deer menace. Farmers have spent lots of money on fertilizer, seed equipments and other agricultural activities.

In the forest Act there are no provisions to deal with such menace and to control deer population. Government of India had enacted the Wild Life Act 1973. Schedule 1 of the said Act needs to be amended. And the deer should be included in the Schedule '5' so that they would be considered as species instead of mammals. It is to control deer population and the deer menace.

The farmers of northern parts of Karnataka would able to grow more and more pulses, cereals and foodgrains. I hope that Government would take all necessary steps in this regard as early as possible.