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Title: Need to undertake immediate relief measures for the families who suffered loss of lives and crops due to unseasonal rains and hailstorms in Andhra Pradesh particularly in Karimnagar parliamentary constituency.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (KARIMNAGAR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government

towards loss of lives and destruction of crops of farmers due to freak and unseasonal rains, thunder-squalls combined with hailstorms in some districts of Andhra Pradesh particularly in Karimnagar Parliamentary Constituency.

Karimnagar district received 41.6 mm of rainfall, Adilabad 31.1 mm, Nizamabad 26 mm, Nalgonda 18.3 mm and Medak 14.1 mm of rainfall, while the average rainfall recorded in Andhra Pradesh was 7.8 mm. Horticulture crops like mango (1800 acres) and vegetables and chillies in Katlakunta and Porumalla villages were damaged. Farmers were distraught as rains caused damage to standing paddy, maize and bengalgram crops. Commercial crops like cotton, maize, sesamum, blackgram, greengram, mustard, cowpea, sunflower and jowar suffered extensive damage due to unseasonal rain. Turmeric crop was completely damaged. In all, standing crops more than 2,00,000 h.a. suffered damages. 1,11,177 hectares of land in Karimnagar district alone has suffered damages. Even now, these areas are reeling under its impact till today. Most of the deaths occurred either due to lightning or electrical short-circuit. Some persons were injured in house-collapses in Telangana Districts. Strong gales accompanied by torrential rains damaged nearly 1,500 houses in Telangana region. The fury of the untimely downpours caused heavy loss in Karim Nagar District in Andhra Pradesh. Mandals of Ramadugu, Jammikunta, Veenavanka, Husnabad, Koheda, Bejjanki and Ellanthakunta suffered loss to the tune of more than Rs. 100 crore. Accurate assessment of loss may be made through Central and State level inspection teams. Ex-gratia payment against the deaths should be made quickly with the revision of existing norms specified under Apathbandhu insurance scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

In view of the above factual situation, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs to kindly help the needy people of Andhra Pradesh particularly the Karimnagar Parliamentary Constituency in Andhra Pradesh.