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Title: Need to increase the Minimum Support Price for cotton and initiate the procurement through Cotton Corporation of India.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise an important issue regarding the problems faced by cotton growing farmers.

Cotton is a major crop in India. It accounts for 37 per cent of world's production. India has record production of cotton this year. The production is 40.55 million bales this year as compared to last year's production of 30.5 million bales. Now, the problem is there has been significant fall in the price of cotton, especially in my State, Karnataka. Last year, Karnataka's farmers got Rs.5,600 per quintal, but this year the farmers are getting only Rs. 3,600 per quintal. The Central Government, for this year, has fixed the Minimum Support Price at Rs. 3,750 per quintal for medium staple cotton and Rs.4,050 per quintal for long staple cotton. So, the MSP is not scientifically done.

So, my humble request to you is to instruct the Government to kindly enhance the Minimum Support Price for cotton and start the procurement through Cotton Corporation of India as early as possible. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER:

S/Shri D.K. Suresh and S.P. Muddahanume Gowda are allowed to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri R. Dhruvanarayana.

श्री अशोक महादेवराव नेते (गढ़चिरोली-चिमुर्): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान महाराष्ट्र, विदर्भ में सूखे के कारण किसानों की बुरी दशा की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप नियम 193 की चर्चा में यह इश्यू उठा सकते हैं।

श्री अशोक महादेवराव नेते : ठीक है, मैंने इस चर्चा में अपना नाम दिया हुआ है।