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Title: Regarding the Great Indian Bustard (Bird) of Solapur, Maharashtra.

ADV. SHARADKUMAR MARUTI BANSODE (SOLAPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a very important issue regarding the Great Indian Bustard in my Solapur constituency.

The State Government has reserved the land admeasuring 1029 square kilometres to protect the Great Indian Bustard. However, due to the decision of the hon. Supreme Court, the State Government conducted an inquiry in accordance with Sections 18 to 25 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and it has decided that only 493 hectares of land may be reserved for this Great Indian Bustard. But till date the Environment Ministry has not taken any steps. The interesting thing is that for the last so many years, nobody has even seen that bird. No doubt, the bird has to be protected. But simultaneously it has to be noted that lakhs of farmers and plot owners cannot sell or purchase land; industrialists cannot establish new industries, while the plans of the Government are also badly affected.

Therefore, I would request the Government to take the necessary steps to solve the problem at the earliest. Thank you.