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Title: Need to formulate special programmes and policies for the welfare of farmers engaged in dry land farming in the arid and semi-arid regions of the country.

**SHRI D.K. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL):** Dry Land Farming in India is completely dependent on rainfall. Nearly 85 Million Hectares of land falls under Dry Land Farming in India and contributes about 40 per cent of total food production. Due to successive years of deficient rainfall, many dry land farmers are facing threats to their livelihood. Reduced productivity has led to loss of income for farmers, resulting in unemployment and migration to cities. Another Green Revolution is required to improve agricultural production with emphasis on improving yield from dry land farming. New technologies and mechanisms must be adopted to conserve moisture in dry land, soil conservation and provide quality seeds to help farmers get a better yield. There is an urgent need to reinvent dry land farming through Government policies and practices. Minimum Support Price based on scientific findings need to be fixed by the Government. Farmers do not even get basic prices right now for their produce to support the wages of labourers let alone get adequate income from farming. I request the Government to look into this very important aspect which can boost dry land farming.