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Title: Need to provide adequate compensation to farmers who suffered damages to their crops due to recent unseasonal rains and hailstorms in the northern region of the country particularly in Ambala Parliamentary Constituency, Haryana.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): I would like to bring it to the kind notice of Hon. Agriculture Minister that heavy rains and strong wind at the rate of 55 k.m. per hour have not only paralysed the life of common man in North India but have flattened wheat crops in northern region states. 70 per cent of the wheat is Agyeti (advanced) type of wheat. These varieties of wheat have been flattened by the winds, most of the damaged crops are likely to survive but huge damages are bound to occur between the range of 10-20 per cent. Meteorological department of Haryana Agriculture University have recorded rain from 20 mm to 55 mm which is above the normal rain. This excess rain will not only harm the farmers financially but it may lead to crop diseases such as yellow rust and karnal blunt. More rain will not be beneficial for the crops as high velocity wind and hailstorms have damaging effect on the crops. I myself have visited several areas of my Ambala Lok Sabha on 1st of March and interacted with the farmers. They are demanding adequate financial help because the flattened crops will not only hamper further growth of the crops but also make it difficult for farmers to harvest them. The untimely rains have added to the worry of farmers. After a brief spell of good weather, farmers were expecting bumper crops, but this untimely heavy rains and hailstorms have shattered the dreams of our farmers. Not only wheat but crops like Potato, Dalhan and Mustard have also been badly affected.

On account of the untimely rains, two farmers have already died and one has committed suicide. Therefore, I humbly request the Hon. Minister to direct all the northern states to make special provision in this regard by the respective State Government. I also demand that Rs 10,000/- per acre may be awarded to those farmers who suffered loss after assessing the same.