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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to farmers in drought hit districts of Andhra Pradesh.

**SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS(VIJAYAWADA)** : I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that 196 Mandals in 7 out of 13 districts in the state of Andhra Pradesh have been hit by drought due to deficient rainfall. During South West Monsoon-(June 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015), the state received a rainfall of 519.7mm as against the normal rainfall of 549.1mm with a deficit of 5.4 per cent and the rainfall received during the previous year (2014) was 375.7mm with a deficit of 32 per cent for the corresponding period.

The erratic rainfall, prolonged dry spells have led to significant yield loss in major crops. The drought in Andhra Pradesh is expected to dent the production of rain-fed crops such as pulses, whose prices have soared over the past month, alongside soyabean, cotton and coarse grains.

The drought in its second year is leading to reduced farm incomes and farm distress. The State government has taken a number of measures like provision of easy credit to aid the farmers. However, much more is needed. I request the Government of India and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to provide financial assistance to farmers in the drought hit regions of the State.