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Title: Need to provide remunerative price to cotton growers for their produce in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

SHRI Y.V. SUBBA REDDY (ONGOLE): The Objective of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is to help cotton farmers by ensuring remunerative price for their produce thereby protecting their interest. But, it is happening the other way round.

This season 77 lakh bales of cotton were produced in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana but CCI is avoiding purchase on flimsy grounds of 'more moisture content', even though there is a directive to purchase at higher moisture content.

CCI is purchasing only 20-25 lakh bales as compared to 87 lakh bales last year thereby creating problems for farmers who are resorting to distress sale and if they don't get their input cost, they ommit suicide.

The CCI was asked to open 43 centres in Andhra Pradesh but opened only 25 centres. I request to immediately open the remaining centres .

I request Government of India to extend pilot project undertaken in Maharashtra to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana wherein farmers sell their produce directly to traders and if amount is less than MSP, CCI will deposit difference amount in farmer bank account. This will reduce corruption. The payment to farmers should be made online in their accounts and CCI should purchase from farmers directly who have Pattadar Passbooks/identity Cards.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, may I be allowed to make a small mention under rule 377? My name is there. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: They want to take up the next item.

...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : Let them take it up after that. I have a small matter. You may sometimes allow. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is all right. Sometimes we are allowing but I have announced the laying of the matters now.

...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : So, next time when you are in the Chair, we can hope to raise our matters. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): I just want to bring to your kind notice something. How long will the Government take and how much time do they require? ...(*Interruptions*) This is happening in spite of their having 282 Members and also their allies together with them. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, NDA altogether has 352 or 353 Members. In spite of thatâ€¦!

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sometimes it happens.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE : Not sometimes, on Friday also we cooperated. You know that.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is Quorum in the House.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: It took five minutes to have Quorum in the House....(*Interruptions*) This is unfair....(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Shri Kharge has raised a very valid point. It is always desirable that maximum number of Members of Parliament should be present in the House. We make every effort,

since we are from the Lok Sabha, that Members do come but it is after Lunch time. We have out of 282 a large strength but the Congress also has 45 Members and only four Members are present. They should also try to see that their Members' participation also take place.

**14.06 hours**

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**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**