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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to Karnataka affected by drought.

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): The State of Karnataka has been subjected to severe drought successively for the last six years. This year deficit and scarcity in rainfall has put the State in very bad condition. This year, 139 Taluks out of 176 Taluks in the State are declared as drought affected Taluks. This has caused huge economic loss to the State in general and agrarian community in particular. Deficit rainfall consecutively for more than six years have resulted in very poor or no storage in minor irrigation tanks and also depletion of groundwater level in the State which is an important source for drinking water for rural population and livestock.

the total estimated loss due to drought in the State is Rs. 17,193 crores. The central team has also studied the ground realities. Government of Karnataka has sought assistance from the Union Government under NDRF to the tune of Rs. 4,702.54 crores, in addition to special assistance of Rs. 967.76 crores.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to sanction the financial assistance sought by the Government of Karnataka under NDRF to the tune of Rs. 4,702.54 crores and special assistance of Rs. 967.76 cores to the Karnataka State immediately and save the lives of the poor people in the State.