

Title: Need to enhance procurement price of cotton to atleast Rs.3000/- per quintal in Maharashtra.

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL (KHED): Again six cotton growers have committed suicide in the State of Maharashtra following widespread damage to their crops due to unseasonal rains and their failure to repay the loans which were taken from different financial institutions and money lenders. This situation also arose during previous year. But the Government has not taken any effective steps to stop recurrence of such incidence. A meagre amount of compensation is being paid to them. At a time when the farmers are facing acute hardship, the State Government has announced a meagre procurement price of Rs. 2,100 per quintal while the farmers are demanding of Rs. 2,500 per quintal. It is known that the Government has not revised the procurement rate since 1995. As a result of this, farmers are not getting reasonable prices for their produces. Therefore, they are unable to repay the loans and forced to commit suicide.

Therefore, I request the Government to enhance the procurement rate of cotton to at least Rs. 3,000 per quintal. I also request the Union Government to provide Rs. 2 lakh to each of the affected family as a special assistance.

Need to set up an LNG Terminal in Andhra Pradesh