## Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding problems of Meindwal community in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra.

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL (AMRAVATI): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry regarding problems being faced by the Meindwal Community in Vidharbha Region of Maharashtra due to delay in starting of export of sheep and goats.

Vidharbha has a large population of cattle rearing community. Sheep and goats are being reared in this area by Meindwal Community which is fully dependent on this profession for their livelihood. The farmers and cattle-rearing community are not getting their due and are being overburdened with loans and as a result, they are committing suicide.

The people of Vidharbha saw a silver lining in the decision of the Government to export sheep and goats from Nagpur Airport. This export was to commence from 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. It is very unfortunate that due to protest by some people belonging to a minority community, this export could not be started.

Madam, all leaders, including the Union Minister of Road and Transport, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra State and Minister of Commerce and Industry, were supposed to be there for commissioning of this scheme. They had already been invited. However, it went in vain due to the sabotage made by those who never intend to see the welfare of the Charward/Meindwal community whose sole bread comes from this profession only. Rearing of sheep and goats is an age-old profession in India. Even the great King, Chandragupta Maurya, was born in this community.

A great initiative was taken through the dream Scheme, namely, Make in India under the aegis of the our Prime Minister.

Keeping in view the above, I urge upon the Union Government to take care of the feelings of the Meindwal Community so that this Scheme of export of sheep and goats can be started without further delay so that further suicides by farmers and cattle rearers can be minimized to a great extent.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Anandrao Adsul.