

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding measures to protect small and marginal farmers-laid.

SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (ERODE): Due to vagaries of weather, poor harvest can bring havoc and financial disaster to the small and marginal farmers. The prevailing economic condition has resulted in farmers selling their products at lower prices due to collapse in demand in the wholesale markets.

An amicable solution is needed for the distressed farmers who are affected by bad weather, pest attacks and other crop damages, to come out of their vicious cycle of debts.

Hence, I request the Government to take the following measures:

(a) Introduce a “Samadhan” scheme where the total interest amount, penalty charges etc., and 50% of the principal amount of agriculture debts be waived, so that the bad debts of distressed farmers could be settled.

(b) The said “Samadhan” scheme be made available for agricultural loans, agricultural development loans (for purchasing tractors, boring wells etc.) and crop loans to be availed from all banks either nationalized or private sector banks.