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Title: Need to provide relief to the drought affected people and waive off the loans of the farmers of Krishnagiri constituency of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI V. VETRISSELVAN (KRISHNAGIRI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Minister towards the worst condition of Dharmapuri district, particularly in my Krishnagiri constituency in Tamil Nadu, due to drought. Dharmapuri district is the most drought-affected district of the State. It is facing worst drought situation for the last two consecutive years. This year, drought has affected the district most adversely as compared to the previous year. The people are facing acute shortage of drinking water and food. Irrigation is affected severely due to failure of monsoon. The strength of cattle is decreasing day by day as they have no fodder and water. Employment opportunities in agriculture section have stopped. The farmers are facing a lot of loan burden and are not in a position to repay the loans.

Sir, no relief measures have, so far, been provided this year to this district either by the Central Government or the State Government. We have made request to the State and other Central authorities to provide some relief measures, to provide more foodgrains, to waive the loans of farmers and to take effective steps to provide drinking water facilities in this district.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister concerned to take personal interest towards the condition of this district and direct the State Government and the Central authorities to take effective action immediately and also to provide some direct relief to this district.

13.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

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