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Title: Need to release additional quantity of rice to Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work Programme with a view to generate more employment to drought affected people of the State.

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH (MACHILIPATNAM): The burning problem in the State of Andhra Pradesh for some time past has been drought. The entire rural economy in particular being agrarian has been worst hit. Due to adverse impact, the agriculture, livestock and allied sectors are affected and with a view to stem the tide of adverse impact the Government of Andhra Pradesh has formulated a contingency plan and is poised for implementation on war-footing with a view to provide employment to labourers, provision of credit to the farmers, supply of fodder and drinking water in urban area rural areas. Due to the severe drought situation in the State 1041 Mandals out of 1171 were declared as drought affected.

I urge upon the Central Government to release additional quantity of rice under food for work programme to provide employment to agricultural labourers.