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Title: Need to clear the proposal of the Government of Karnataka for providing relief to the coffee industry. – Laid.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (GULBARGA) : A proposal by the Karnataka Government to provide relief to coffee industry in the State was forwarded to the Ministry of Commerce. The Indian coffee industry is facing an unprecedented crisis because of historically low prices arising out of supplies world over outstripping the demand. The surplus supply situation is likely to persist at least in the medium term which means that the low price situation will continue for some more time. With the prevailing prices, the coffee growers in the country are not able to meet even the cost of production. The Government of India has been requested to examine the demands of the coffee farmers and take up relief measures.

The situation is still continuing and the present prices will deter the growers from making appropriate investments in the coffee estates, which may lead to a reduction in productivity and competitiveness. Therefore, the State Government of Karnataka has been requesting the Union Government to take up relief measures which would help the coffee industry in the State.

I urge upon the Government to kindly take necessary decision to provide relief to the coffee growers in the State of Karnataka and also in other coffee growing States in the country.