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Title :Need to clear the proposal of the Karnataka Government regarding pending issues of tobacco growers. - Laid.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (GULBARGA) : Due to severe drought condition prevailing in Karnataka, tobacco farmers are in distress. The Karnataka Government is having long pending issue before Tobacco Board including the issue of fixing of 60 million kgs. crop size and the issue of licence to all the existing barns in Karnataka. The Government of Karnataka repeatedly represented this issue before the Government of India to refund 15% service charge and Rs.2/- per kg and the Government of India has been requested to allow the farmers to sell their produce on auction platforms without delay.

The Union Government was urged to accord approval for the sale of entire tobacco produced in Karnataka without imposing penalty on the farmers but the Government has not communicated any decision in this regard so far.

As the tobacco growers are in poor condition, I urge upon the Government to kindly clear the proposal immediately so that the tobacco growers are helped in this regard.