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13.12 hrs.

**(ii) Re: Non-payment of Crop Insurance dues
to the farmers of Karnataka**

Title: Regarding payment of crop insurance due to the farmers of Karnataka.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Sir, in Karnataka, the farmers are committing suicide because of lack of disbursement of crop insurance especially by the Agricultural Insurance Company of India Ltd., which has not disbursed Rs. 221 crore for *rabi* and summer crops for the year 2003-04. The farmers are demanding it. ...(*Interruptions*) They are on agitation. They are not getting the insurance money. They want their premium money which they have already given to the Government. Their condition is so pitiable. The women have sold their *mangalsutras* to give premium money and they are not getting any relief. Without the crop insurance money and without getting the premium money, the farmers in Karnataka are in deep distress. Today all the BJP MPs sat on dharna. In Karnataka also, all our MLAs are sitting on dharna in front of the Karnataka Assembly.

We are demanding the Union Government, through you, Sir, to immediately intervene and to disburse Rs. 221 crore for the amelioration of the distress of the farmers of Karnataka. The hon. Home Minister, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, who is a friend of farmers, is sitting here. I request him, through you, Sir, to intervene and assure that this amount of Rs. 221 crore of crop insurance by the Agricultural Insurance Company of India Ltd. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Unfortunately he has not got that much money to provide.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, he is a very senior Minister. This amount of Rs. 221 crore is due to the farmers of Karnataka by the Agricultural Insurance Company of India Ltd. This amount should be disbursed immediately because the farmers have given the premium, and this is due from 2003-04. Sir, I request the Home Minister to give an assurance to the farmers of Karnataka ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How can he? He is not concerned with this.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: When the Speaker allows the matter to be raised, the Government has to take the matter seriously. This is obvious.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I only request the Government, through you, Sir, to take it very seriously. Sir, the Home Minister is ready to respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Some matters should be taken very seriously.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the Home Minister is ready to respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He will bring it to the notice of the appropriate Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, I will bring it to the notice of the Agriculture Minister and then I will ask him to appropriately act on it.

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