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Title: Problems being faced by the farmers, reelers and weavers in silk industry of Karnataka.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI GOWDA (KANAKAPURA) : Thank you, Sir. Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Textiles to improve the living conditions of the people who are working in the silk industry – farmers, reelers and weavers. My State, Karnataka contributes two-third of Indian silk production. The Central Silk Board is also situated in my constituency, Kanakapura. That includes the Vidhan Sabha constituencies of my parliamentary constituency like Anekal where a lot of weavers are there and also Kanakapura, Satnoor, Ramnagar, Malavalli and Magadi. All these constituencies are having a lot of farmers. Their grievance is that Ramnagar is having one of the largest cocoon market of the Indian silk industry where farmers are suffering from lack of shelter. When they are going to sell their cocoons they have to stay in the night to get better rates on the next day in the auction etc. But when they are staying along with the product of cocoons, a lot of thefts are also taking place and also women farmers are facing a lot of problems.

Even though I allocated Rs. 10 lakh each to Ramnagar and Kanakapura constituencies to build Rytu Bhavans for their stay, this money is not enough to take care of the large amount of farmers' needs. I urge the Ministry to build the Rytu Bhavans and provide all the infrastructure. My second point is concerning the reelers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to raise one point only.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI GOWDA : Sir, this is important. The minority communities are part of the reelers who are part of the silk industry. I have already mentioned it in the beginning. There is lack of supply for doing their jobs. They need more supply of quality silk threads to produce more reels where they can have their livelihood.

My last point is concerning the weavers. Today the weavers are facing the problem of joblessness all over India. I demand the Government to allocate them proper work and to ensure them proper marketing facility. Then only they can take care of their problems. Thank you very much.