

Title: Heavy loss of crops due to hail storms at Birbhumi, 24 Parganas, Midnapur, Howrah and North Bengal districts of West Bengal and failure of NAFED to purchase mustard, onion and other crops.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, you know that the farmers in different parts of our country, like Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and West Bengal are in great distress because of two reasons. One is because of severe hailstorm during the last 15 days, the farmers of the districts of West Bengal, like Birbhum, 24 Parganas, Burdwan, North Bengal District, Howrah have suffered damages to the crops. The farmers are in great distress. The Government should take into account all these things.

Secondly, in other parts, there is a huge production of mustered seeds. In Rajasthan, there is a production of about 34 lakh tonnes of mustered seeds. But the Government and NAFED purchased only ten lakh tonnes of it and now the NAFED has stopped purchasing it. These two things are there. I would request that the farmers should be adequately compensated and their dues should be paid immediately in Rajasthan and other parts of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Your matter was particularly with regard to hailstorm only.