

an>

Title: Need to expedite the fixation of the price of Sugarcane in Karnataka to safeguard the interest of sugarcane growers.

SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR (BAGALKOT): Sir, in Karnataka, the sugarcane growers are facing a lot of problems about fixation of prices. Every year, they are facing this problem. Still, the private factory owners have not fixed the prices. Last year, they were given Rs. 1200 per tonne. This time, the private factory owners were not ready to offer that amount and thus, there is a lot of problems arising out of it in Karnataka. In this regard, the Chief Minister and the Deputy-Chief Minister have convened a meeting and tried to settle the matter. But still the matter has not been settled. For the first time, the Government has reduced the sugar purchase tax by 50 per cent. That is going to burden the Government amounting to more than Rs. 100 crore.

Then, the farmers are facing a lot of problems because this is a cash crop. In fact, they should have started the factory two months back. But the crop is going to be dried up now. I insist the Union Government to take steps to settle the matter and I hope that the Government will take action on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: SHRI M. Shivanna – not present. Shri Prabodh Panda.