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Title : Need to provide financial help and waiver of loans to farmers affected due to deficient rainfall in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR (ZAHEERABAD): Madam, this year, there was a drought in some parts of the Andhra Pradesh like Medak, Nizamabad and my Constituency-Zahirabad and also almost all parts of the Telangana areas. The Godavari river basins like Nizamsagar, Sriramsagar and Maneru have become dry.

The small and marginal farmers are the worst-affected due to scanty rainfall. Crops like Bengal Gram, Green Gram, Black Gram, Red Gram, Jowar including paddy were also affected. The present situation is really deplorable. The Government should immediately extend necessary help like the waiver of loans, re-scheduling of loans and interest-free loans to farmers in such drought-affected areas in Andhra Pradesh. A Central team has recently visited the drought-affected districts and its report is still awaited.

I, therefore, request the concerned Hon'ble Minister to kindly intervene in the matter and do the justice to the drought affected people in Andhra Pradesh by releasing additional financial assistance immediately.