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Title: Need to direct the National Insurance Company to pay compensation to Chilli growers who lost their insured produce due to fire in 2 Cold Storages in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY (NARASARAOPET): I would like to bring to the notice of the august House, the ridiculous attitude of the National Insurance Company, denying payment of compensation to 1500 chilli growers in Guntur district.

The farmers have stored the chilly in two cold storages in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, to the tune of about 85,000 bags. Unfortunately, the above cold storages had caught fire wherein the entire stock was burnt. The stocks were insured for Rs. 60 crore approximately with the National Insurance Company and the Oriental Insurance Company. The Oriental insurance Company has fully paid the compensation, whereas the National Insurance Company has paid only Rs. 4 crore.

I therefore request the hon. Union Ministers for Agriculture and for Finance, through the Chair, to kindly intervene in the matter and redress the grievance of the innocent and illiterate farmers by directing the National Insurance Company to pay the compensation which is overdue, and also to exert pressure on the State Government to see that the payments are made urgently.