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Title : Need to waive off the farm loan taken by farmers whose crops have been damaged due to drought conditions in Orissa.

SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN (SAMBALPUR): Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the people in Western Orissa. It is the first ever incident in the post-independence era of Orissa that incidents of suicides by farmers have been reported in the district of Sambalpur. The deaths have been caused due to crop failure because of severe drought condition prevailing there. The death toll has reached to 10 in the entire State while 3 cases of death have been reported in the district of Sambalpur. I request Hon'ble Agriculture Minister to waive off the farm loans taken by farmers during Kharif crop period and send a Central team to assess the damage caused by the drought in the affected districts.