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Title: Need to provide a relief package for drought affected Kerala and put a moratorium on repayment of agricultural loans in the State.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): The reduced monsoon showers in the year 2012-13 have caused severe concerns among Kerala's agrarian community as the State witnessed a decrease of 24% in southwestern monsoon and 35% in north eastern monsoon rains. The majority of Kerala's agrarian population suffered enormous crop losses and as much as 3,05,787 hectares of agriculture produce have been adversely affected. Kerala's estimated loss due to this crisis stands at around 5,810 crores. Wayanad district is the worst affected among all districts and a loss of 1766 crores is estimated. Wayanad being a tribal district and a minority district that sustains itself from small scale agriculture is already suffering losses from the previous spells of farming crisis and this situation is adding to the district's plight. Considering this situation, I would request the Union Government to consider the case of Kerala as a special one and immediately release a drought relief package and among other measures declare an immediate moratorium on repayment of agricultural loans.