

an>

Title: Need to open Procurement Centres for cotton in Dharwad Parliamentary Constituency, Karnataka.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): Dharwad District, Karnataka in my constituency is one of the largest cotton growing regions in the country. This season, market has received cotton of all grades in large scale especially from Kundagol, Kalaghatagi, Navalagund, Dharwad, Hubli Taluks, and process of procurement by cotton society of India in Hubli is in progress. But the prices at which cooperative societies are purchasing is not profitable to the farmer and in the open market, prices have reached the bottom. The farmers who have grown cotton this year are facing hardships. The Cotton Society of India has opened Purchasing Centre at Hubli only and as a result a large quantity of cotton bales are lying and farmers are pressing for opening more purchase centres by Cotton Society of India to ease out the piled up stock early. Therefore, I urge the Government to instruct CSI to open new purchase centres at Kalaghatagi, Annigeri, Dharwad, Navalagund with competitive prices to be given to farmers. Now in our region, all grades of cotton are being purchased at Rs 3800-4000 which is not satisfactory and this needs upward revision.