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Title: Need to provide adequate irrigation and cold storage facilities to flower and vegetable growers in Dindigul Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Since time immemorial, our Indus Valley Civilization developed the crop cultivation as the main occupation. So naturally our country India is now an agricultural country based on agro-economy. We need to concentrate more on cultivating all our barren lands. More than 78% of our people are dependent on agricultural sector. The vagaries of weather seriously hamper the crop cultivation. Failure of monsoon or flood or heavy rains or drought affect the farming class. They are caught in the grip of money-lenders whenever there is a crop failure. In my Dindigul Constituency, Nilakottai area is famous for cultivation of flowers and Ottanchatram is known for vegetables. Agro based industrial units like perfume factories at Nilakottai with adequate central financial assistance will be a boon to our farmers. Ottanchatram has got the largest vegetable market of our State and it must be provided with Central Cold Storage Facility. Assured water supply must also be ensured.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to evolve suitable programme to benefit such agro-marketing centres to have adequate irrigation facilities by way of deepening the wells, going in for digging new wells, introducing sprinkler systems, providing seed banking and grain storage system.