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Title: Regarding crash in Cocoon prices.

SHRI D.K. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL): Sericulture is a main source of income for lakhs of farmers in the state of Karnataka. Sericulture farmers have been facing problems due to the crash in Cocoon prices triggered by the Centre slashing import duty on raw silk. Large number of farmers committed suicide in recent months. The Govt had earned sufficient revenue by exporting silk goods particularly from Karnataka in recent years. The cross breed (CB) cocoon, which was selling at Rs 400 per kg till April, is finding no takers even at Rs 210 per kg. The prices of bivoltine cocoon too has dipped from Rs 600 to Rs 320 per kg over a couple of months .

It is the duty of the Government to help farmers in the times of distress. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to declare a suitable MSP for Cocoon at the earliest to help the farmers.

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