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Title: Regarding financial assistance to Karnataka for drought under NDRF.

SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA (CHITRAGURGA):Karnataka has been subjected to severe drought successively for the last six years. This year deficit in rainfall has put the State in very bad condition. This year, 139 Taluks out of 176 Taluks in the State have been declared as drought-affected Taluks. This has caused huge economic losses to the state in general and agrarian community in particular. Deficit rainfall consecutively for more than six years has resulted in very poor or no storage in minor irrigation tanks and also depletion of groundwater level in the State which is an important source for drinking water for rural population and livestock.

The total estimated loss due to drought in the State is 17,193 crores. The central team has also studied and ground realities. Government of Karnataka has sought assistance from the Union Government under NDRF to the tune of Rs. 4702.54 crores, in addition to special assistance of Rs. 967.76 crores.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to sanction the financial assistance sought for by the Government of Karnataka under NDRF to the

tune of Rs. 4702.54 crores and special assistance of Rs. 967.76 crores immediately and save the lives of the poor people in the State.