

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Dr. John Brittas: Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu) and Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha).

Now, Shri Iranna Kadadi on 'Need for reforms for Food Processing Industries under PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme'.

Need for reforms for Food Processing Industries under PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme

SHRI IRANNA KADADI (Karnataka): * "Sir, with the noble intent of doubling the farmer's income, our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has brought Pradhanmantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme and Agricultural Interest Fund (AIF) Scheme. Under the PMFME scheme, the farmers can increase the value of their crop by processing the food grains in the processing centers. This scheme with an objective of increasing the farmer's income, allows them to store the food grains in the godowns/warehouses until the farmers get a good price of their produce in the market.

Sir, the objectives of this scheme also include construction of these godowns, sorting and classification of food grains and providing technical support to the farmers for related agricultural activities. Such schemes have been started to provide various facilities to the farmers and to double their income.

However, the banks, while financing these Micro Processing units and the related basic infrastructure, consider these units as Micro Industries. Sir, the banks insist on the conversion of these lands from agricultural category to non agricultural category as the precondition for sanctioning the loans. The farmers convert their land into the non agricultural category only to fulfill the requirements of the bank, to get this loan. In such a situation, conversion is carried out in the local Panchayat records.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Kannada.

When the agricultural land gets converted into non agricultural land, the local Panchayat assesses the land revenue under industry category, which increases the tax liability of the farmer. This also increases the tax burden on the farmer. Even if the farmer does not get any profit from the processing unit, the land which has been converted would continue to be taxed as non agricultural land. The farmer is thus, again compelled to convert the land into agricultural land by frequenting the government offices.

Sir, I request to kindly consider the Micro processing units under the category of agricultural activities, and allow such activities to be carried out on the agricultural land. Sir, I also request that the farmer should be given an opportunity to construct a cattle shed on 10% of his land, a warehouse to manufacture jaggery, small processing units, small godown/warehouse to store the food grains, to have small units for sorting, classifying and packing the grains. Since these are the agriculture related activities which should be allowed on the agricultural land, that will encourage many more farmers to avail these facilities. I request to take up this issue on priority by giving the requisite direction to the banks. I hereby humbly request the Central Government, through you, Sir, to take the required steps in this regard. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Iranna Kadadi: Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju (Telangana), Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki (Madhya Pradesh), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra) and Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu).

Now, Shrimati Rajani Ashokrao Patil on 'Concern over safety and security of people's investment made in various Multi State Cooperative Units in Maharashtra'.

**Concern over safety and security of people's investment made in various Multi States
Cooperative Units in Maharashtra**

श्रीमती रजनी अशोकराव पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे जीरो ऑवर में बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद। महाराष्ट्र में खासतौर पर मराठवाड़ा में मल्टी स्टेट क्रेडिट कोऑपरेटिव संस्थाओं द्वारा जो घोटाला, जो स्कैम हो रहा है, मैं उसके बारे में बोलना चाहती हूँ। इस घोटाले में हमारे किसान, मजदूर, देहाड़ी करने वाले गरीब लोग शामिल हैं, क्योंकि उनको ही पीड़ित किया जाता है। With your permission, I would like to speak in Marathi for my people.