

Regarding release of Funds fo Andhra Pradesh as an interim relief and the relief and rehabilitation work due to cyclone Michaung

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Sir, as the hon. Member Shri T.R. Baalu has mentioned about the cyclone, we also have the same problem in lower coastal Andhra Pradesh. There has been very heavy rain over the last two days due to the cyclone over the West-Central Bay of Bengal of Southern Andhra Pradesh. The Indian Meteorological Department announced the landfall of Michaung today somewhere between Bapatla and Machilipatnam in lower coastal Andhra Pradesh. Heavy rains have devastated the standing crops in tens of thousands of hectares in coastal and other districts of Andhra Pradesh. This cyclone has brought tears to the farmers as the crop which is ready for harvest is lost before their very eyes. The State Government is still in the process of identifying and assessing the damage, and it may take some time to come to a conclusion about the damage to crop, life and property. Due to the heavy rains, roads have been damaged, supply of electricity is disturbed and people are not able to fetch essentials apart from other problems being faced by them.

In view of the above, I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister Shri Modi ji for immediately sending a Central team, once the rain recedes, for assessing the damage caused to the standing crop, roads, buildings, electricity supply and other infrastructure facilities and submitting its report to the Government for release of Central assistance.

Pending the report of the Central team, I request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to release Rs. 5,000 crore to Andhra Pradesh as an interim relief immediately to deal with the relief and rehabilitation work due to cyclone Michaung.

Thank you very much.