

Title: Requested for financial aid from the central Government to prevent sea erosion in Kerala.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a very important matter concerning the State of Kerala. Now, the monsoon is very vigorous in Kerala, as a result of which the coastal areas have been eroded. Sea erosion is the major menace affecting the State of Kerala. We have a long stretch of nearly 600 kilometres of sea coast. A sea wall is being constructed for years together, but the Government could not complete the work.

In this connection, the State Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to give financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore for completing the work. Since it is a natural calamity, it is only just and proper that the Central Government should come to the aid of the State Government. It is happening every year. Whenever there is monsoon, immediately sea erosion takes place. Most of the fishermen who live on the coastal side are left homeless. Their houses and huts are washed away which makes them homeless every year. So, the State Government has to provide funds for building new houses every year. So, it being the natural calamity, I think the Central Government will come to the assistance of the State Government in completing the construction of sea wall from north to south.

I hope the Central Government will give very serious consideration to the request made by the State Government of Kerala on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, I support the submission made by Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (TENALI): Sir, the issue raised by Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan is a very serious one. It affects not only the State of Kerala but also Andhra Pradesh. On the coastal side of Andhra Pradesh, most of the valuable lands get eroded. Hundreds of acres of lands are getting eroded because of which people become homeless. This is a very serious problem. Oceanography is the Central subject. The Central Government has to construct the wall wherever the land is getting eroded. I request the Central Government to take up this matter immediately....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Sir, we are also associating ourselves with the issue raised by Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Sir, we are also associating ourselves on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, let the Minister reply because this is common to most of the States.

SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN (NAGERCOIL): Sir, in Kanyakumari district also the same problem exists. I also associate myself on this issue....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, this is about protection of coastal areas.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): I will bring this issue to the notice of the Minister concerned.