

Title: Need to provide additional funds to the Government of Kerala for undertaking rehabilitation work in the Tsunami affected areas of the State.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, Tsunami tidal waves that hit coastal India, Andaman and Nicobar and particularly Kerala's coastal line on 26th December, 2004 engulfed long stretches of the State's 560 kilometres long coastal line.

The State lost about 200 precious lives in this killer Tsunami and about 200 persons suffered injuries. It also destroyed the life supporting physical infrastructure, like protective sea-wall, houses, drinking water supply systems, power installations etc. It affected a population of 4.5 lakh and they had to cope with the tragedy and damages that were unleashed by the killer waves. Two Panchayats, namely, Alappad and Arattupuzha, have completely been devastated. Houses have been razed to the ground; cattle perished; fishing boats, nets and fishing equipment were washed away; landing centres were flattered, and fishing harbours were silted up. About 7,000 houses were fully destroyed and 11, 165 houses were substantially damaged.

The total requirement of the State comes to about Rs. 1,400 crore. Many of the coastal panchayats were severely affected. Though the Central Government has given immediate assistance, the total loss to the State is beyond our estimation. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to give additional funds for rehabilitation, construction of damaged roads and bridges, relief to the affected people and construct sea-wall not only in the affected area but also in the coastal area.