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Title: Need to provide compensation to the people affected by heavy rain in different parts of the country.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am bringing your urgent attention and intervention to the following important issue.

The southwest monsoon has intensified over Kerala unleashing torrential rain across the State and leaving a trail of devastation especially backward agricultural dependent districts such as Palakkad.

The summer rain that lashed the district plays havoc, which claimed eight lives so far.

Sir, crops on 2,153 hectares of land were damaged, of which paddy fields made up the largest area of 1,392 hectares. The crops loss is estimated at Rs. 9.72 crore. In the district, 340 hectares of farm land is submerged in water. Fifty per cent of the loss suffered by the farmers is on account of damage to paddy alone. Crops like plantain and vegetables have also been damaged in the rain. Fifteen houses got destroyed and 412 houses got damaged. Damage of roads has led to a loss of Rs. 5.3 crore.

In this regard, the Government of Kerala has already estimated the primary statement and submitted it to the Government of India seeking assistance of Rs. 31 crore. The estimate is of almost Rs. 85 crore due to loss of agricultural crops alone. The roads, houses and other damaged items are involved in this damage list.

In the case of Kerala, the Central team does not reach in time. I would, therefore, urge the Government to immediately send a special team to our State to investigate the loss, particularly, on the agriculture side as early as possible and give sufficient compensation to the farmers and the poor people of the State of Kerala.