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Title: Need to release funds for damage caused by floods in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL): Hon. Speaker Madam, Tamil Nadu received in the first 20 days of this November the heaviest rainfall recorded in over 100 years. Madam, 169 people have died due to heavy rains. Our Tamil Nadu Government led by Amma rushed with a compensation of Rs.4 lakh, increasing the compensation from Rs.2 lakh, to every affected family.

More than four lakh people have been shifted to relief camps and provided food and shelter. Rescue and relief operations have been taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu on a war footing.

Despite all preventive measures taken by the State level agencies, Ministers and District Collectors, Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, Chennai, Thiruvallur and Thoothukudi suffered large scale destructions in the heavy rains. Our Amma had sanctioned Rs.500 crore for the relief operations. Despite the continuous rainfall hon. Amma visited R.K. Nagar and addressed the people's grievances.

Our Amma called upon the hon. Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and requested him to depute a Central team to Tamil Nadu to make an on the spot assessment of the flood damage.

Our Chief Minister Amma has assessed that an amount of Rs.8,481 crore would be required immediately for rescue and relief of the temporary and permanent restoration of infrastructure.

Our leader, Amma has also requested the Centre to sanction immediately Rs.2,000 crore in this regard. But the Centre has announced less than a thousand crore of rupees.

**18.18 hours**

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

A high level inter-Ministerial Central team met our hon. leader Amma on 26<sup>th</sup> November. At that time our Amma urged the Central team to submit its flood damage assessment report immediately so that financial assistance could be released without any delay.

Hon. Prime Minister appreciated the flood rescue and relief works carried out by our leader Amma in his *Mann Ki Baath*.

But the hon. Ministers Shrimati Nirmala Sitaraman and Shri Pon Radhakrishnan visited the flood affected areas only after 12 days. They never interacted with the Tamil Nadu Government and key officials and at the same time let them not politicize the disaster.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request the hon. Prime Minister to release the flood relief fund amount requested by hon. Amma immediately. Thank you.