

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to people affected by cyclone 'Ockhi' in Kerala.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (ERNAKULAM): The 'Ockhi' thunder storm which created havoc in the coastal region of my Parliamentary Constituency Ernakulam, from Chellanam to Munambam has made a large number of fishermen and the local people homeless. The fishermen lost their fishing equipment including country boats and mechanized boats. One fisherman died in this natural calamity at Chellanam. The toilet and water supply system has been damaged. Immediate assistance has to be extended to the coastal area of my parliamentary constituency by Central and State government authorities. The long pending demand by the fishermen in the area is to construct sea wall and pulimuttu (wave breaker). At present no assistance has been rendered by government of India for the construction of sea wall and wave breakers. Hundreds of houses have been very badly damaged and central assistance needed for construction and renovation of these damaged houses. The central team has visited this area and a report is submitted to both the Central and State Governments. Immediate assistance is needed from the Central Government for these affected fishermen and other people staying in the coastal area.