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Title: Regarding immediate intervention on developmental issues in Kerala alongwith unprecedented flood situation in various part of the State.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the severe occurrence of flood in different parts of Kerala, especially, in my own District of Alappuzha and Kuttanad.

I am very much thankful to the hon. Home Minister as I had raised this issue earlier also, and he had sent the hon. MoS Home there. Unfortunately, he did not inform me. Otherwise, after the No-Confidence Motion, I could have been present there if the Minister had informed me about his visit. However, I could not be there because of this non-information from their side.

The situation is very alarming. The entire Kuttanad region, which is known as the 'rice bowl of Kerala' has been flooded. My fellow Member, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, is present in the Constituency only, and I am also going over there now.

All the people in Kerala are affected because of the devastating floods. Actually, the situation over there is that thousands of houses were damaged, and physical and economic losses amounting to hundreds of crores of rupees have been reported from different parts of the State, especially, in this area. Thousands of common people have been forced to

take shelter in the temporarily-arranged rehabilitation centres. Around 500 shelters are there in my Constituency itself. Hectares of paddy fields and cash crops were damaged due to the devastating flood and rain. The economic loss of this damage is yet to be estimated.

People are lacking proper medical facilities and potable drinking water. The temporarily-arranged camps are unable to provide proper care and shelter for the suffering people. They are also facing serious lack of proper communication system and safe drinking water.

In addition to this, mine is a coastal Constituency and due to lack of proper sea wall in the western coastal regions, life of thousands of poor fishermen inhabiting in the vicinity of sea shore is in danger. They are in a very bad situation as there is no livelihood or source of income for them.

I would request the Government to declare this flood as a national calamity taking note of this unfortunate loss of valuable human lives and economic damage.

Already, our all-Party Delegation had met the hon. Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister had also assured some relief measures in this area. I think that he was also instrumental in sending the Minister over there. The Members of the Delegation were demanding most significant development needs of the State. They had asked for increase in the allocation of food grains to the State. However, I am very sorry to state that the hon. Prime Minister's attitude was very negative regarding removing the uncertainty about the Kanjikode Railway Coach Factory and to speed up the Sabarimala Railway Project.

The Prime Minister did not give any assurance. Instead of that, the hon. Prime Minister took an indifferent attitude. ... (*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** हो गया, आपको बहुत समय दिया है। हम इस पर चर्चा भी कर लेंगे।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : The Delegation was not sent by any Party, but it was a Delegation of the people of Kerala. ... (*Interruptions*) The Prime Minister even submitted a memorandum. ... (*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** श्री रामदास सी. तडस जी।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Madam, I am coming to the last point. Kindly give me one more minute to speak... (*Interruptions*)

The Prime Minister instead of giving assurance to the Delegation from Kerala submitted a Memorandum to the Delegation itself. ... (*Interruptions*) I would request the hon. Home Minister to give some assurance on the issue in the House. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Madam, a response may be given by the Government on this very serious issue being faced in Kerala. ... (*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** आप भी इसमें सहभागी हो जाना।

...(व्यवधान)

**HON. SPEAKER :** Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, Shrimati Supriya Sule, Shri P. Karunakaran, Shri M. B. Rajesh, Dr. P.K. Biju, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher and Adv. Joice George are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.