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Title: Request the government to allocate more funds, so that adequate hostel facilities to SC and ST students can be provided.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI (THOOTHUKKUDI):

Sir, the hostel facilities for students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are appalling. In many parts of the country the situation is very bad.

In Tamil Nadu, there are 1,675 hostels and around 1,20,000 students are staying in those hostels. All the hostel facilities provided to the students are very meagre. Even the basic facilities are so bad. So, where will the students get library, quality water, sanitation and safety? It is practically non-existent in these hostels. Girl students are the ones who are worst affected by this.

In a recent survey in a newspaper, they had said that in Perambur, in Tamil Nadu, around 55 students were staying in a two-room rented accommodation with just two toilets. The students complained that they cannot even stretch their legs at night and they are not able to get ready to go to their schools every day. Only around Rs.900 per month is given to a school student and Rs.1,000 per month to a college student for their food. How can we have a good nutritious meal in this meagre amount. I request the Government to allocate more funds to maintain these hostels throughout the country.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्रीमती सुप्रिया सदानंद सुले, श्री बी. मणिक्कम टैगोर एवं श्री कुलदीप राय शर्मा को श्रीमती किनमोझी करुणानिधि के द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।