

Request for fixing a new revised date for conducting once again the UGC-NET exams in Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur districts of Tamil Nadu

SHRI S. VENKATESAN (MADURAI): Hon Chairman, Sir, Vanakkam. Heavy rains and subsequent floods which were unprecedented in last 47 years played havoc in Chennai, Tiruvallur, Kanchipuram and Chengalpattu districts of Tamil Nadu. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in a letter written to the Union Government, has sought Rs.5060 crore as a special package and interim relief for saving the lives of the people of Tamil Nadu from this natural disaster. I urge that the Union Government immediately extend this financial help to Tamil Nadu.

Chennai is one among the important cities of India where unplanned expansion has taken place. Providing relief is the only way to bring back normalcy into the lives of people affected by this disaster. I urge that interim relief should be released immediately by the Union Government. Similarly, three industrial estates of Tamil Nadu have been worst affected by this recent disaster. Small, Micro and Medium Industries are the most affected sector. In India, Tamil Nadu is a progressive State paying a substantial amount as its share of GST revenues to the Union. I, therefore, urge in this august House that a Special Package should be provided to Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises of Tamil Nadu. Heavy rains occurred on 4.12.2023 and have affected four districts of Tamil Nadu including Chennai. But on 6.12.2023, UGC-NET Exams were conducted in Chennai by the Education department. I have a serious question to ask whether or not the Education Department is aware of what is happening in several parts of the country, particularly a disaster of this magnitude in Chennai. Many students, particularly girl students were not able to attend this UGC-NET Exam held on 6.12.2023. I therefore urge that a new revised date should be fixed for conducting once again the UGC-NET Exams in Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur districts of Tamil Nadu. I also urge that the Interim Relief be released immediately to Tamil Nadu.

Thank you.