

Regarding release of funds to undertake rehabilitation work for people affected by heavy rainfall and floods in Tamil Nadu-laid

DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI (KALLAKURICHI): Tamil Nadu has battled unprecedented heavy rainfall and floods in December, 2023. In the beginning of the month, parts of Chennai and its neighbourhood Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, and Chengalpattu experienced massive flooding because of Cyclone Michaung. 10 days later heavy rains lashed Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanyakumari and Tenkasi Districts. Kalyanapattinum in Thoothukudi district saw heavy amount of rain, as high as 950 mm in 24 hours, leaving a trail of destruction. More than 20 people were killed, roads and railway lines were washed away, and a bridge in the area collapsed. Capital Chennai's Industrial and IT hubs business operations were severely hit; the damage is severe in areas under the Corporation of Chennai. Infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and public buildings have suffered severe damage. Rain has badly damaged the roads, bridges and common buildings, and affected the livelihood of lakhs of people of Tamil Nadu. The livelihood of lakhs of people has also been affected.

Hon?ble Chief Minister has written a letter to the Hon?ble Prime Minister and has also personally met on 19th December, 2023; seeking an immediate interim relief fund of Rs. 6,500 crore and a permanent relief fund of Rs. 12,659 crore as soon as possible, amid the destruction caused by Cyclone Michaung in Tamil Nadu, So far, the Union Government has not responded to the demands of Tamil Nadu.

In this regard, I draw the attention of the Hon?ble Prime Minister and Union Government to consider the genuine demands of Tamil Nadu Government and release necessary funds for rehabilitation work at the earliest.

