

Regarding devastation caused by Cyclone Fengal in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry

SHRI T. R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, with a heavy heart, I would like to draw the kind attention of this august House as well as the rest of the nation to the fury of nature which caused heavy damages in 14 districts of Tamil Nadu especially in the districts of Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Cuddalore, Tiruvannamalai, Chengalpattu and so on.

Sir, it has created extensive damage to the standing crops, which were inundated for the past one week and they have almost perished. The farmers lost all their proceeds this year. Most probably, we will be losing the food security to Tamil Nadu. Yesterday, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the hon. Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, and other Ministers had extensively visited almost all the districts to understand what all damages have occurred and also to find the facts as to how the damages have occurred. They have taken a spot study and have come to Chennai. Not only that, yesterday itself, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister of India, and the hon. Prime Minister was kind enough to call the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu today morning. He explained everything about the fury of the nature. Sir, within one minute, I will conclude. To account the fury of nature, I would simply say this. About 1.5 crore poor people are severely affected. Twelve persons have lost their lives. About 2,416 huts have been washed away and 721 houses have been damaged. About 963 cattle died. About 9,576 kilometres of roads have been damaged and 1,847 small bridges have been damaged. About 417 village tanks have been spoiled. About 1,649 kilometres of electric conductors have been damaged and 997 transformers have also been damaged. About 5,936 school buildings and 4,269 Anganwadi Centres have totally been damaged. Damages have also been caused to 1,650 panchayat buildings, 381 community centres, and 623 water supply schemes.

Taking into consideration all these damages which have occurred in Tamil Nadu, I would request the hon. Prime Minister of India to kindly send an assessment team there so that a Central Team can go there and assess the situation, and inform the officers concerned and extend relief immediately. Thank you, Sir.

