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Title: Need to provide relief to the drought affected areas of Kerala.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALGHAT): Sir, only a few minutes ago, the hon. Prime Minister declared here about some steps taken by the Union Government, as an assistance to the States which are affected seriously by drought this year. The hon. Prime Minister also declared here about some steps like waiver of loans for farmers of our country.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, I would like to say that the State of Kerala is not getting even a single paisa from this assistance. From the list of 14 States declared as drought-affected States, the State of Kerala is totally excluded. Though the State of Kerala made a very serious lapse to take up the matter properly, promptly and timely with the Union Government, the people of Kerala should not suffer for this. It might be a serious lapse on the part of the Government of Kerala to take up the matter with the Union Government.

Now the Government of Kerala has declared 40 talukas in 10 districts, out of the 14 districts of the State, as seriously drought-affected in the State. According to the declaration by the hon. Prime Minister a few minutes back, from the list of the 14 States declared as drought-affected two neighbouring States of Kerala – Karnataka and Tamil Nadu – are getting this assistance. I may mention that in the border areas of Kerala the farming community is not likely to get the assistance that the hon. Prime Minister has declared a few minutes back.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take up this matter seriously and to include the farmers of Kerala for getting assistance and benefit of schemes which have been declared by the hon. Prime Minister like the waiver of loans, both short-term and long-term loans. The Government of Kerala should also get this assistance. Thank you.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I also gave a notice on this subject. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, your name is associated with this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ravi Prakash Verma to speak now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, we also associate ourselves with the issue raised by Shri Krishna Das. ...(Interruptions) We want to clarify the matter. Please allow us.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (CALICUT): Sir, please let me speak to clarify on this point. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can associate yourself with this.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I also gave a notice on this issue. Please allow me to mention it. ...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वर्मा जी, क्या आप बोलना नहीं चाहते?

â€¦ (व्यवधान)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Krishna Das.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Banatwalla, your name will be associated.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, the matter is brought up before the hon. Prime Minister. ...(Interruptions) This is a very serious matter. Please allow us to clarify. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, hon. Member Shri Krishna Das has said that the details are not given. The hon. Minister of Revenue of the Government of Kerala has mentioned the details in a Press Conference. This was in the Press. ...(Interruptions) We understand from the hon. Minister of Agriculture that the details should have been given sector-wise and district-wise. Since it was not given in the proper form and within proper time, Kerala is not included. ...(Interruptions) But for this, the people of Kerala should not suffer. ...(Interruptions)

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (खीरी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत सरकार शिक्षा पर जी.डी.पी. का 1.5 प्रतिशत खर्च कर रही है जोकि आवश्यकता से बहुत कम है।â€¦ (व्य

वधान)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, we should not suffer. I would strongly appeal to you. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Sir, we need your protection. Please allow us to clarify. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : We should not suffer for the lapse of the Government of Kerala. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, you please start speaking.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are making injustice to the hon. Member who is speaking. Why do you not listen to him? The hon. Member is speaking. Do not make injustice to him.