

Title: Need to take steps to improve the condition of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): I want to draw the attention of the Government of India towards the financial condition in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(i) In Tamil Nadu, over 80 per cent of the 12,000 Panchayats have been enervated. People in rural areas are without street lights, potable water and such other basic amenities and have been forced to spend their days in darkness;

(ii) The schemes being implemented in Tamil Nadu by the TWAD Board have only been half-completed as approximately Rs. 100 crore, the balance amount due to the contractors, has remained unpaid for the last so many months. The contractors have stopped all further work;

(iii) Twelve per cent funding is given as subsidy as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission apart from the subsidy amount for registration which is offered to the Panchayats by the Government;

(iv) It is learnt that the registration subsidies and 12 per cent subsidy as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission has not been given to Panchayats. Many Panchayat leaders say that the "matching grant" as subsidy for House Tax collections has not been provided to the Panchayat.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to take stock of the financial situation of the Government of Tamil Nadu and take remedial measures under the Constitution.