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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for restorative work in the cyclone affected areas of the State. - Laid.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM) : The severe cyclonic storm in Andhra Pradesh left a trail of destruction as it crossed the coast near Machilipatnam around mid night on 15th December, 2003 claiming 49 lives rendering about 8000 families homeless and damaging vast tracts of crops and public utilities.

While Krishna District faced the brunt of the fury, crops of banana, betel and tobacco were damaged extensively in other districts like Guntur, East and West Godavari districts. The State Government rose to the occasion and 413 special teams were deployed for restoring power on war footing and repairing damaged roads. The State Government has also taken timely action for evacuation which could save many lives.

As the cyclone has left trail of mass destruction, the effort of State Government alone would not suffice. I, therefore, request the Government of India to come to the rescue to the State Government and assist to the maximum extent possible on humanitarian ground and provide maximum financial assistance as well as paddy to restore normalcy in cyclone affected districts.