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Title: Need to ensure payment of compensation to the victims of Tsunami in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (PERIYAKULAM): Huge seismic sea waves, triggered by a massive undersea earthquake with 8.9 magnitude off Sumatra that hit the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 27th December, 2004 caused a heavy loss of lives, including animal lives and property worth crores of rupees. The Tsunami waves caused maximum loss of lives and property in Nagapattinam and Kanyakumari areas of Tamil Nadu. The Central team which visited these areas to assess the damage caused by the people have been declared as dead or missing. With this the affected families of missing persons are facing lot of difficulties in showing their near or dear as missing for getting compensation and it is feared tht it will take more than 5-7 years under the existing rules to get their compensations settled. If the affected families do not get compensation in time, then, I am afraid, their plight will double in size.

I request the Government that the families whose members are missing, may be paid compensation without any further loss of time and their cases be decided at par with those of dead.

* Treated as laid on the Table.