

Title : Alleged misuse of funds meant for Tsunami and National Calamity released by Central Government.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, we have faced great tragedies, and we have witnessed tsunami and a lot of other natural calamities of the recent days. It is an unfortunate fact that much of the funds, which have been released by the Centre, have not been properly used or I may even say that they are being misutilised by some of the States.

I know about my State where there are a lot of complaints with regard to the use of the tsunami funds. The Government of Kerala has built no houses even though houses were to be made. Now, those funds that were meant for the fishermen and other folks were also not properly released, and there have been a lot of complaints with regard to this issue as well.

I would also like to mention about the Natural Calamity Fund. I would like to give the example of flood relief. We find that flood relief funds are being released in the areas where there have been no floods, and at the places where floods have really occurred, the poor people who really deserve are not getting the relief funds.

Sir, it may be a Minister's wish or it may be a bureaucrat's wish that they simply give the funds as if they are from their own kitty. They simply give them for political purposes, and for purposes of their own liking. I feel that this has to be properly monitored. I would humbly request that the House should take this matter very seriously because this is not a stray complaint with regard to one particular State. I am sure that this complaint must have come from very many States.

There should be a serious study, and there should be a serious monitoring system for this. Though I am not for interference into the matters of the State, yet I really feel that unless the matters of this nature are properly monitored and properly dealt with very seriously, the deserving poor people are going to be at a loss.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government that serious action should be taken, especially, in matters that I have specifically brought before this honourable House.