Title: Need to release more funds for providing relief to the people affected by recent earthquake in Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency, Jammu & Kashmir.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (UDHAMPUR): Recent earthquake has severely hit the Jammu and Kashmir and as a result of this lakhs of people have become homeless. Thousands of people in the region died due to this natural calamity. I thank the Central Government for taking timely decisions and for providing funds for relief, rescue and rehabilitation of the people of this area. However, I wish to draw the attention of the House towards the plight of the people who have suffered in my Udhampur constituency. They have not yet been provided any relief and they were shelter les during the entire period of severe winter and during heavy snowfall also. Their sufferings cannot be described in words. The Government cannot compensate the irreparable loss caused to them as a result of death in their families. However, the delay in relief and rehabilitation work is really an injustice to them. I understand that as against the Rs. 600 crores announced by the Government only Rs. 300 crores has been released for the purpose.

I urge upon the Government to take necessary action in this regard and direct the concerned authorities to expedite relief and rehabilitation work in my Udhampur Parliamentary constituency urgently.

^{*} Treated as laid on the Table.