Title: Need to include sea erosion under Natural Calamity for assistance from CRF and NCCF.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, the coastline of Kerala is subjected to severe sea erosion throughout the year and it is more during monsoon months. During monsoon season, the entire stretch of coastline of Kerala is vastly affected. In my Constituency Alleppey, that is Alappuzha, alone nearly 60 houses were fully destroyed and nearly 200 houses were partially damaged. This is the same along the entire coast of Kerala. This gets repeated every year. The State Government has to spend a huge amount of money every year for the rehabilitation of the affected families. Unfortunately, the State of Kerala does not get any Central assistance since sea erosion is not considered a natural calamity as per the Government of India guidelines. Similarly, hilly areas of the State are subjected to landslides and lightning strikes which have taken up many lives and caused severe damage[KMR58].

The Government of Kerala has represented this matter before the Union Home Ministry and was informed that CRF norms were fixed by the Finance Commission. Considering the devastation caused by this natural calamity, I would urge upon the Government to include natural calamities like sea erosion, land slidings and lightenings in natural calamity norms fixed by the Government of India and assistance under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) should be provided for the sufferers of this catastrophe.