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Title : Recent cyclone in West Bengal and Bihar.

SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT) : Hon. Speaker Madam, You must be aware of the calamity which struck West Bengal and Bihar in the wee hours of 14th April 2010. All my esteemed colleagues also know about the cyclone in Bengal Through newspapers and visual media. Due to that severe tornado, North Dinajpur of Bengal, Purnia, Katihar and Kishanganj of Bihar have been ruined. More than 120 people have died in this storm. In Dingajpur, 43 persons have lost their lives. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless. Numerous houses homesteads have collapsed – the entire region is devastated. The Government of West Bengal has tried to extend its helping hand in all possible manners. It has announced the release of compensation to the helpless people financial assistance and rehabilitation have been already declared. Temporary shelters and tarpauline sheets have been distributed among the affected population.

But there is a need to send a central team urgently to the cyclone – affected areas on behalf of the Central Government to take stock of the situation. Immediately, Rs.1000 crore and Rs.500 crore should be released from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to Bihar and West Bengal respectively. We, as representatives of the people should visit the places and assess the range of devastation. This Government claims to be a Government for the poor people, the common man. So if the Members of Parliament or the representatives of the ruling Government do not stand by our people in time of crisis, then we would be sending across a wrong message.

SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Madam, this happened in my constituency. The hon. Member is not saying correctly. He is misleading the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER : If you take up the issue, I will give you a chance.

...(*Interruptions*)

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT) : It is our duty to be with the displaced, devastated, hapless countrymen when they need us the most. Thus through you I would urge upon the Government to do the needful without wasting any more time. Central assistance should be rushed to the affected areas so that the people who have lost everything are able to stand up on their our feet once again.

With this request, I thank you for allowing me to speak in Zero Hour and conclude my speech.

MADAM SPEAKER : Thank you so much.

Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar,

Shri Pulin Bihari Baske,

Shri S.K. Saidul Haque, and

Dr. Ramchandra Dome will associate with this issue. You are not speaking. You will just associate yourself with this issue. All others who want to associate may send their names to the Table. Shri Advaniji to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI : Madam, the hon. Member Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar has given wrong information. That had happened on 13th night. It is in my constituency. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER : I will allow you afterwards. Thank you.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (GHATAL): Madam, I have given a notice. I am repeatedly drawing your attention. Please allow me.

MADAM SPEAKER : All right; I will allow you.