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Title: Allocation of funds from the National Disaster Relief Fund to tackle drought in Kerala.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (VADAKARA): Kerala is witnessing unprecedented drought which is the worst in the century. More than 30,000 hectares of agriculture land have been affected by drought. Preliminary estimate shows that more than 27,000 hectares of paddy cultivation have been badly hit. The drought has caused loss of about 250 crores. The drinking water scarcity is also becoming grimmer and acute as most of the wells and tanks started drying up fast. The reservoirs have only 40% water and the underground water has dropped by 2 to 4 meters. The situation is very grave. In order to tackle the drought condition, the Kerala Government has already sought assistance from the Central Government on war-footing. I request the Union Government to take urgent necessary steps to save the State from this disastrous situation. I urge the Government to allocate an amount of Rs. 1000 crore from the National Disaster Relief Fund to meet the drought situation in the State.