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Title: Issue regarding flood situation in Tamil Nadu.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): Madam Speaker, I do not want to talk about the controversies, what happened in the Chair when I was presiding over. It is because, whenever I am going to the Chair, I will handle that issue. How the Bill was passed and everything cannot be debated here because I gave the ruling at that time itself regarding that.

Now I want to raise certain points. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister said regarding the drought situation and also the flood situation. We have already discussed extensively about the flood situation, what happened in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chennai and Pondicherry. We have discussed that. Our Prime Minister also visited Chennai. Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu requested the hon. Prime Minister to declare this calamity as a national calamity. Also, she has written a letter to the Prime Minister of India, taking cognizance of that to come forward to give assistance. It is because, unless you declare it as a national calamity – what happened in Tamil Nadu especially in Chennai and other areas – we cannot get more assistance. Everybody knows what happened there. Also, the Tamil Nadu Government has taken steps very seriously and normalcy has been restored now. Our Tamil Nadu Chief Minister so extensively dealt with this issue. She took it seriously and also she got so much assistance from other quarters. She is still getting assistance from other quarters also. Very active rehabilitation work is going on.

My request is this. It is because, so many Members have discussed. So many calamities took place in India and we declared them at that time as national calamities. We have discussed so extensively about what happened in Tamil Nadu and people are suffering. The Home Minister is here. He is the competent man because already our hon. Chief Minister's letter has reached the hon. Prime Minister. She today gave a statement also in the newspapers. Therefore, I would request the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister to come forward and declare whatever calamity that happened as a national calamity. That is my request. ...(*Interruptions*) It is a very serious matter because people are suffering. It may be looked ordinarily but everybody lost their property because of the unprecedented thing that happened. That is why, I would request you to come forward. Whatever our Chief Minister has requested, that has to be taken care of. Declare what happened in Tamil Nadu as a national calamity; that is what I am requesting.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. M. Thambidurai