Title: Demands For Supplementary Grants (General) - 2015-16 And Demands For Excess Grants (General) - 2012-13.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item Nos. 15 and 16 together. Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): May I speak at the end while answering the debate?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. All right.

Motion moved:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2016, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6 to 10, 12 to 20, 22, 28 to 35, 37, 43, 47 to 51, 53 to 56, 58 to 63, 66, 68, 69, 73, 76, 77, 83, 84, 86, 88, 89, 91 to 94, 96 to 98, 102 and 104 to 109."

Supplementary Demands for Grants -Second Batch (General) for 2015-2016 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended on the 31st day of March, 2013, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 13, 21 and 40."

Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2012-2013 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Vanakam. I whole-heartedly thank our beloved hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for this opportunity to speak on Second Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants pertaining to Budget (General) for the year 2015-16 and Demands for Excess Grants for the year 2012-13.

The Second Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2015-16, presented to Lok Sabha on 10th December, 2015, includes 68 Grants and three Appropriations.

The approval of Lok Sabha has been sought to authorize gross additional expenditure of Rs. 56,256.32 crore. Of this, there would be proposals involving a net cash outgo aggregate of Rs. 18,195.40 crore. The gross additional expenditure matched by savings of the Ministries/Departments or by enhanced receipts/recoveries aggregate to Rs. 38,059.78 crore.

Besides a token provision of Rs. 114 lakh is being sought, Rs. 1 lakh for each item of expenditure, for enabling re-appropriation of savings in cases involving New Services or New Instrument of Service. Earlier the First Batch of Supplementary Demands for the year 2015-16 stood at Rs. 40,821.68 crore. The hon. Finance Minister has also sought the approval of Lok Sabha for Demand for Excess Grants amounting to Rs. 4,921.06 crore for the year 2012-13.

A technical supplementary of Rs. 10,000 crore is sought for providing ways and means advance to the Food Corporation of India to meet the cash flow requirements towards procurement of food grains for Targeted Public Distribution System. This will not entail any additional cash outgo, and the amount should be repaid within the current financial year itself.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Demand to meet the expenditure of Rs. 5,092.20 crore towards National Cleanliness Fund, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and National Rural Drinking Water Programme.

Under Demand No. 37, Transfer of Funds to State and Union Territory Governments, the Supplementary will entail a cash outgo of Rs. 2,155.20 crore. I would urge that the Government should ensure impartial distribution of funds to all the States including Tamil Nadu.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the world is seized of the matter relating to climate change and ways and means to minimize its effects. Recent Climate Change Conference held in Paris is in the positive direction. But our spending on Climate Change Action Plan is so meager.

Sir, I sincerely request that more funds should be allocated, in future, for early warning systems and research; and in order to protect Mother India from, the effects of environmental degradation.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while extending support to the Rs.200 crore Supplementary Demand sought for AIIMS, New Delhi, I wish to urge the Union Government to expedite the setting up of AIIMS in Tamil Nadu in the place selected for the same. I also request the Government to provide more grants for the procurement of drugs and equipments for lab testing and also for providing funds for Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society.

While supporting the Supplementary Demand for Rs.1 crore each to the establishment of three National Institutes of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research (NIPER) in Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, I demand that a similar institute should also be set up in Tamil Nadu.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under the Department of Telecommunications, the demand for grant of Rs.344.02 crore towards revival of ITI Limited and payment of salary to its staff is a welcome initiative.

Tamil Nadu generates more engineering graduates in the country. It requires a Centre of Excellence and Skill Development to improve the skill

sets of fresh engineering graduates and make them suitable for IT jobs. This requires additional support from the Union Government.

We need more financial support to facilitate the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu for the benefit of thousands of ex-servicemen through Rajya Sainik Board office and Zilla Sainik Welfare Offices in Tamil Nadu.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need additional funds for the development of airports in Tamil Nadu. Apart from Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirapalli Airports, we need funds for the development and expansion projects as these airports generate huge revenue from both passenger and cargo transport.

The Election Commission of India, with immense expertise of holding elections in large scale, is the reason that we are the largest vibrant democracy of the world. A supplementary grant is required for meeting additional expenditure of Rs.5 crore towards construction of India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management campus. I hope this will prove to be a purposeful expenditure.

We are always a trusted partner in the global scenario. India always continues to extend all possible assistance to the friendly neighbouring countries. The schemes to provide aid to Nepal, Myanmar, Afghanistan and African countries are all exemplary acts of generosity by India in the international arena, which is very much appreciated.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as regards the Prime Minister Rural Roads Programme, Supplementary Demand is there for a cash outgo of Rs.2,700 crore. Although I support this demand, I request the hon. Finance Minister to be more sympathetic in allocating funds for restoration of infrastructure facilities, including highways and roads in the flood-affected State of Tamil Nadu.

In Tamil Nadu, the State Highways for a length of 5694 kms have been damaged due to heavy rains. As per initial estimates, a sum of Rs.1,426.53 crore is required for permanent restoration of the damaged roads in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Under the Non-Plan expenditure under the Ministry of Finance for providing additional funds as assistance to States affected by natural calamities like hailstorm, unseasonal rain, etc., from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), an amount of Rs.2,989 crore has been sought by the Union Government in the second Supplementary Demand.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the recent north east monsoon rains in Tamil Nadu have played havoc causing widespread, unprecedented and huge devastation. Though the loss of life was minimised due to the immediate and timely relief efforts of the Tamil Nadu State Government, Defence Forces and NDRF, the loss of property and belongings in the national calamity is enormous and it requires huge money for the rehabilitation and restoration works.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma has requested the hon. Prime Minister *vide* letter dated 23rd November, 2015 for immediate release of Rs.2,000 crore and demanded Rs.8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund.

The inter-ministerial Central team had visited different places affected by floods in the State and are expected to submit a report. Hon. Prime Minister, after visiting the flood ravaged State of Tamil Nadu, announced a financial assistance of Rs.1000 crore to Tamil Nadu in addition to Rs.939.63 crore released earlier. I sincerely pray and hope that the Union Government would be more considerate in this regard.

As this has been declared as a calamity of severe nature, in view of its large scale devastation, I urge upon the Union Government that the entire demanded amount of Rs.8480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund should be released to Tamil Nadu, as per the Memorandum submitted by the Tamil Nadu Government on 23rd November, 2015.

I would like to state that the timely release of adequate funds by the Union Government will help Tamil Nadu to undertake temporary and permanent restoration of infrastructure and other utilities on war footing basis.

But for the leadership provided by hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and the timely action taken by the State administration, the State would have witnessed untold miseries and unprecedented destructions. When rains that should have been realised in three months pour within a few days, any number of preventive measures will not suffice as stagnation and resulting damage are unavoidable.

The Government machinery at the State under the able-leadership Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been working day and night to ensure normalcy. It is pertinent to mention that main agricultural seasons like *Samba, Thaladi* and *Navarai* depend entirely on the North East Monsoon. Thus agricultural economy of the State has got a severe hit by the recent floods. Tamil Nadu suffered a huge loss to crops, livestock, fisheries and infrastructure.

The calamity is so severe that it should be treated as a natural calamity and the entire expenditure towards relief and restoration over and above the State Disaster Response Fund should be borne by the Government of India. The civic infrastructure, including drains, roads and buildings, needs to be strengthened to withstand the rains and resulting flooding. This also calls for changes and improvements in urban planning methods and norms.

Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in a letter addressed to hon. Prime Minister on 9th December, 2015 requested to declare this unprecedented event a National Calamity. There has been extensive destruction and damage to infrastructure as well as to the private property of thousands of families in the flood affected areas. The Government of Tamil Nadu will submit a supplementary memorandum on the extent of damages in the most recent rounds of floods.

Many of these households in the flood affected areas may have insured their homes, personal effects, domestic durable assets and personal vehicles. I request that the insurance companies may be directed to take up the survey and settlement of the claims on a campaign mode, following a summary procedure and with a liberal application of the norms so that such households could receive insurance payments early which would enable them to restart their normal lives.

The banks may be directed to provide a limited moratorium on repayment, as well as a rescheduling of the home loans taken by flood affected households. Many of the affected families have lost their personal vehicles and almost all their durable domestic assets.

As suggested by our Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, as a special case, all such flood affected families may be liberally extended soft loans by the banks for purchase of vehicles, educational loans to continue to fund the education of children and personal loans of an amount up to Rs.5 lakh to finance essential domestic durable assets.

18.00 hours

The limits on the total eligible loan for these Jan Dhan accountholders may be appropriately relaxed. We request that for white goods and kitchen equipment to be sold in the flood affected districts, excise duty exemption may be provided till 31st March, 2016. Given the extraordinarily heavy devastation caused by the floods, hon. Minister of Finance should immediately order formulation of a liberal scheme with necessary guidelines, aimed at rebuilding the lives of the flood-affected families.

Besides all these welfare measures, as demanded by Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I sincerely pray to the Central Government for immediate release of sufficient funds for the flood-affected Tamil Nadu.

Once again, with a sincere prayer for being considerate to Tamil Nadu State, I support the second Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2015-16.

Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, it is 6 o'clock. Should we extend the time of the House? What is the sense of the House?

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, it is already 6 o'clock and it is a cold evening. So, please do not extend the time of the House.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we do not want to sit late. Please adjourn the House till tomorrow.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 15th December, 2015 at 11 a.m.

18.01 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Tuesday, December 15, 2015/Agrahayana 24, 1937(Saka)

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