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Title: Regarding heavy rain and consequent sea erosion in the coastal areas of Kerala.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, for giving me an opportunity. The natural calamity is not leaving Kerala. We had heavy rains day before yesterday and yesterday also. The rain has been continuing for the last one month. Day before yesterday, the entire coastal houses have been damaged due to sea erosion. All the fishermen are in a very difficult situation. They are not in a position to go for fishing. Their entire houses have been damaged by the massive sea erosion. The problem is that there are no sufficient pulimuttus and sea bridges.

Sea erosion is not included in the natural calamity list and that is why the Government is not giving any assistance. Earlier, the Defence Ministry used to give funds to the States like Kerala for coastal protection but now they are not giving it. As the tribal people live in forests, the fishermen live on the sides of the coast. They will not leave that place. Their livelihood is dependent on sea. Therefore, the Government should consider it seriously.

The Minister has already assured that a package in this regard will be given by the Centre. This should be given the maximum priority. Pulimuttu should be given top priority otherwise, the entire Kerala coast will vanish. I am not in a position to go to my constituency Alappuzha. It is in a very bad shape. It should be given top priority. I am seeking an

answer from the hon. Minister. Madam, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. We are facing this situation continuously for the last one week. Everyday houses have been damaged.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: ऐसा नहीं होता है। इस प्रकार से आवाज नहीं लगाते हैं।

...(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: I can understand. That is why, I have allowed you to speak.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : People are losing their lives. Hundreds of thousands of people are in camps. They are living in temporary shelters. Therefore, Madam Speaker, your intervention is also needed. Thank you very much. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati Supriya Sule, Adv. Joice George, Shri Innocent, Shri Rajeev Satav, Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, Shri N.K. Premachandran Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena and Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND
MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
ANANTHKUMAR): My dear friend and colleague, Shri K.C. Venugopal Ji, has raised a very pressing issue regarding havoc in Kerala due to heavy rain and sea erosion. ... (*Interruptions*)

I assure him that I will bring it to the attention of the concerned Ministries. At the same time, the Central Government will provide all the assistance to the suffering people. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: No, not like that.