

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need to take proactive steps for farmers in getting fair price for paddy crops

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I am deeply obliged for the opportunity. Let me bring to the attention of this House one of the alarming issues that our country is facing today, that is, farmers' suicide. Recently, two farmers in my home State Kerala committed suicide. The suicide note of one of the farmers from Kuttanad was written in Malayalam which said, "The Government is solely responsible for my death." ...(*Interruptions*).. Sir, why did they commit suicide? Farmers sell their paddy to the Government through Supplyco, Kerala State Supplies Corporation. The Government does not disburse the paddy procurement prices to the farmers and there is an inordinate delay in it. Why is this inordinate delay, Sir? It is because instead of making direct payment to the farmers, the Government, the Supplyco, have an impractical loan scheme by which the Supplyco will issue Paddy Receipt Sheet, PRS, to the farmers at that time of procurement and the farmers will have to give this PRS sheet to the bank and they can avail of loans and Supplyco is supposed to make repayment of the loan which does not happen. The Supplyco

makes the payment once the Central Government allots the share of MSP to the State Government. I want to draw the attention specifically to the fact that the Central Government has failed to give Rs.790 crores which is due to the State Government and which is due to the Supplyco. Now, because of the failure, there is no payment being made to banks. Due to that, the CIBIL Score of farmers is also affected and they do not get money on time.

Now, let me get back to the suicide note, Sir. I quote: "It is paddy which I cultivated with my sweat that was given as PRS loan. The Government is solely responsible for repaying this loan and arrears. Banks are not disbursing new loans because Government has defaulted on it. It is because of this, I am taking my life. Therefore, it is only the Government which is responsible for my death." The words in the suicide note are a direct reflection of the plight of farmers of our country and State are facing today. How many more lives of farmers will have to be lost for the Government to wake up and make the payment which is rightfully due to farmers?

Also, paddy farmers in the State are selling their produce to private rice mill owners at a much lower cost. Sir, about 20 per cent of farmers are facing that. ...(*Time-bell rings.*)...If the Government is giving...*

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

* Not recorded.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time is already over, Shrimati Mather Hisham. It is not going on record now. Now, Shri Desai Babubhai Jesangbhai. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat, Mr. John Brittas. ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स, आप जो तीन मिनट बोलते हैं, सिर्फ वही रिकॉर्ड पर जाता है। यदि आप उससे अधिक बोलते हैं तो वह रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाता है। Please, confine yourself to three minutes. Shri Desai Babubhai Jesangbhai to speak on 'Concern about climate change and its consequences". Not present. Shri Tiruchi Siva. Shri P. Wilson will associate. ...*(not audible)*... I am going by serial number. Fifth was Smt. Jebi Matherji; sixth was Shri Babubhai Jesangbhai Desai. Now, seventh is Shri Tiruchi Siva. Please start, hon. Siva.

Demand to allocate adequate funds to the state of Tamil Nadu for relief to people suffering due to cyclone and rains

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, torrential rains which are incessant for the past four days have devastated Chennai, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Kanjivaram and Ranipet in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu witnessed such a rainfall only half-a-century before! Cyclone Michaung, which triggered these rains, have now moved to Andhra Pradesh. But, the impact is so worse that people of Tamil Nadu are put to very big hardship.

Sir, roads have become rivers because of non-stop water flow and rivers have become like a sea. The Koovam and Adayar which used to confluence with sea were not able to push water because of sea water gushing into rivers. All water bodies are overflowing. Many tanks have been breached. Roads have been very badly damaged and eroded everywhere due to running water. However best the infrastructure of the city may be, the fury of nature is so hard and worse, nothing can withstand that. So, all roads have been eroded. The essential needs of the people could not be supplied; though milk vendors and medical facilities can move, but roads are not accessible.

The State Government, under the captainship of Mr. M.K. Stalin, the Chief Minister, and the whole Cabinet are on their heels. The officials of the corporation, workers, doctors, sanitation workers, fire service, rescue teams, electricity board and everyone have been working on a war-footing.

Sir, the foremost responsibility of the State Government is to safeguard the lives of people. Electricity was suspended as a precautionary and temporary measure which saved hundreds of people who, otherwise, would have met with electrocution.