## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

## RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2317

### TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023/ SRAVANA 18, 1945 (SAKA)

#### NDMA FUNDS FOR KARNATAKA DISASTER

## 2317. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NDMA funds made available to States to rehabilitate, rebuild and restore is inadequate, if so, what measures and plans are put in place to discuss, disburse the funds at the earliest;

(b) the remedial measures taken or being taken by Government to reduce losses during the natural disasters, State-wise, year-wise; and

(c) whether the estimation of loss by NDMA during Karnataka floods of 2018, is far varied than the estimation by State Government, if so, the reasons therefor?

#### ANSWER

# MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) : There is no such fund in the name of 'NDMA funds', being operated for disaster management by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, as per the National Disaster Management Policy, the primary responsibility for disaster management, including rehabilitation, rebuilding and restoration, rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments provide financial relief to the affected people in the event of notified natural disasters, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at its disposal, in accordance with approved items and norms of Government of India. However, in the event of disaster of a 'severe nature', additional financial assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The financial assistance provided under SDRF/ NDRF are towards relief and not for compensation of loss as suffered/ claimed.

(b) : There are well established institutional mechanisms at the National, State and District levels in the country to develop appropriate preparedness and prompt response mechanisms for effective management of natural disasters including floods. The Central Government has established a robust early warning system and has significantly enhanced the accuracy of weather forecasts. Mock exercises and community awareness programmes are being regularly conducted to educate people at the time of natural calamities in the country.

The measures taken by the Central and State Governments have significantly improved disaster management practices, preparedness, prevention and response mechanism resulting in significant reduction in casualties during natural calamities, in the country. Further, strengthening of the disaster management is a continuing and evolving process of governance.

-2-

(c) : In case of calamity of 'severe nature', additional financial assistance from NDRF is sought by the State Governments through a memorandum. In the memorandum, the States usually projects damages beyond the norms of NDRF and for inadmissible items. Further, under NDRF, the fund is provided for immediate relief and not for long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction works, for which funds are generally sought by the State Government. This is the reason for variation in demands submitted by the States and the amount sanctioned by the Central Government.

-3-

For flood/landslides of 2018, the Government of Karnataka submitted a memorandum for seeking an additional financial assistance of Rs. 575.15 crore from NDRF. Based on the assessment made by IMCT, in terms of items and norms for SDRF/ NDRF, the High Level Committee (HLC) in its meeting held on 19th November, 2018 had approved the assistance of Rs. 546.21 crore from NDRF subject to adjustment of 50% of balance available as on 01.04.2018 in the SDRF account of the State. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 525.22 crore was released to the State.

\*\*\*\*\*