

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3107**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH AUGUST, 2025/ SRAVANA 29, 1947 (SAKA)

INADEQUACY OF CENTRAL RELIEF NORMS FOR HIMALAYAN STATES

3107. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that compensation norms under NDRF and SDRF are grossly inadequate for hill States like Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government proposes to revise these norms in light of recent flash floods and high-altitude vulnerabilities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the expected timeline for implementation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), the primary responsibility for disaster management, including disbursement of relief assistance on ground level, rests with the State Governments concerned.

The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal, in accordance with Government of India approved items and norms. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments and provides requisite logistics and financial support.

Additional financial assistance is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure, in case of disaster of 'severe nature', which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The financial assistance provided under SDRF and NDRF is by way of relief and not for compensation of losses suffered/claimed.

The items and norms of SDRF and NDRF are determined according to the recommendations of the successive Finance Commission, set up under Article 280 of the Constitution, from time to time. These items and norms are periodically reviewed by the Government of India, which includes representatives from central ministries/ departments as well as representatives from the State Governments. The present items & norms were issued on 10.10.2022 for the period 2022-23 to 2025-26 and revised on 11.07.2023. These norms of assistance are applied uniformly throughout the country, including the Himalayan States.
