GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4017 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH AUGUST, 2018

RELIEF TO ENDOSULFAN VICTIMS OF KERALA

4017. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the Government of Kerala requesting central assistance for the relief and rehabilitation of the endosulfan victims of Kasaragod District, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the National Human Rights Commission and the Supreme Court had entrusted the responsibility of relief and rehabilitation of endosulfan victims jointly to Central and State Government, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has provided Rs. 200 crores as financial assistance, which amounts to fifty per cent of the relief compensation and pension for five years for these victims, as requested by the State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a): The Central Government has recently received request from State Government of Kerala for provision of Rs 200.30 crore which includes 50% of the State Government's commitment of Rs 349 crore for providing relief compensation to Endosulfan victims i.e Rs 174.5 crore and Rs 25.8 crore for pension for 5 years for eligible Endosulfan victims.

(b): As per information received from Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), inter alia, recommended, Government of India to supplement the efforts of the Government of Kerala in the provision of relief and long term rehabilitation. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P (C) No. 213 of 2011 on 10.01.2017 inter alia ordered as under:

- State Government to release the entire undisbursed payment of compensation, quantified as Rs 5 Lakhs each, to all affected persons, within three months.
- it shall be open to the State Governments to recover the aforestated compensation either from the concerned Ministry or from the Government of India, in case it is open to State Government to make such recovery, in consonance with law.

(c) & (d): Under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare there is no such scheme for extending financial assistance for rehabilitation/ compensation to the victims of Endosulfan. However, under the National Health Mission, Rs. 25.72 Crore has been provided for relief and rehabilitation of patients affected by endosulfan as per proposals of State of Kerala during 2012-13 to 2018 - 19.