## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

## LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*13

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2018 / AGRAHAYANA 20, 1940 (SAKA)

**RAIN AND FLOOD IN KERALA** 

\*13. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN: SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assessment made in respect of loss of lives and damage to property by unprecedented torrential rain and flood in Kerala during the month of August 2018;

(b) the details of financial assistance sought by the State Government of Kerala for relief and rehabilitation measures along with the amount of financial assistance sanctioned and disbursed to the State in this regard;

(c) whether the State Government of Kerala has been given financial assistance as per the laid down norms, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the details of such norms;

(d) whether the Government denied permission to Kerala for obtaining financial assistance from foreign countries, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the stand of the Government in the matter along with the steps being taken by the Union Government to compensate the State for disallowing such aid; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to relax the existing provisions of disaster management for giving more financial assistance to the State Government of Kerala for compensating the loss sustained due to the said flood?

## ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## **Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. \*13 dated** <u>11<sup>th</sup> December, 2018</u>

(a) to (c): Based on the memorandum submitted by the State Government of Kerala seeking an assistance of Rs. 4796.35 crore for floods & landslides in August 2018, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) had assessed the damages in conformity with the norms of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF/ National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). As per the assessment made by IMCT, 339 human lives lost, 75,857 cattle lost and 6.42 lakh houses damaged and 82660.29 ha. cropped areas have been reported affected due to flood/ landslides in Kerala during August 2018. Based on the report of IMCT, the High Level Committee (HLC), in its meeting held on 06.12.2018 has approved the assistance of Rs. 3048.39 crore (including Rs. 584.61 crore for floods of June-July) from NDRF for floods and landslides of 2018.

The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Government. The concerned State Governments undertake relief measurers according to the magnitude of the ground situation, in the wake of natural disasters including floods from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal in accordance with Government of India approved items and norms without any discrimination. Additional assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per established procedure.

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In order to support the affected people of the State Government of Kerala, the Government of India has released both the installments of Central Share of SDRF amounting to Rs. 192.60 crore and Rs. 600.00 crore, released on account, basis from NDRF to Government of Kerala for immediate relief measures.

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(d): In the wake of Kerala floods, several countries expressed their sympathies and their willingness to assist in the relief and rehabilitation efforts. In response, Government expressed deep appreciation for such offers and conveyed that in line with existing policy, it is committed to meeting requirements for relief and rehabilitation through domestic efforts. It was further conveyed that contributions to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund from NRIs, PIOs and international entities such as Foundations would however, be welcome.

(e): No Madam. Government of India approved norms of SDRF/ NDRF schemes always have PAN (Presence Across National) India implication, which is not advisable to amend on case-to-case basis. With regard to compensation, it is stated that financial assistance under SDRF/ NDRF in the wake of natural calamities is towards relief and not compensation of loss as suffered/ claimed.

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