

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 144**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 2018/ AGRAHAYANA 20, 1940
(SAKA)**

ASSISTANCE FOR CYCLONE RELIEF

**144. SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:
SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:
SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:
DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:
SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:
SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether severe cyclonic storm 'Gaja' has struck Tamil Nadu coast recently;

(b) if so, the details of losses suffered and the number of districts in Tamil Nadu and other States that have been severely affected and the number of people killed;

(c) whether any central team has visited the affected areas and assess the damages and if so, the assessment made therein;

(d) the amount of relief sought by the affected States and the assistance provided/ likely to be provided by the Government; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to introduce a better mechanism for permanent disaster management system with the co-ordination of all the concerned departments of Central/ State Governments to minimize the losses due to such type of calamities?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): As per the information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu and UT of Puducherry, the details of reported losses are given as under:-

(As on 30.11.2018)

State/ UT	Human live lost	Houses/ huts damaged	Cattle death	Cropped areas affected
Tamil Nadu (10 district)	63	6.04 lakh	14239	1.12 lakh ha.
Puducherry (01 district)	Nil	1117	04	81.68 ha.

In the instant case, based on the interim memorandum submitted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu and UT of Puducherry seeking an assistance of Rs. 1431 crore (further it was revised to Rs. 2658.49 crore) and Rs. 187.18 crore respectively, for cyclone ‘Gaja’ of 2018, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was deputed for on the spot assessment of damage caused by the cyclone Gaja of 2018. Upon receipt of the IMCT report (pending for want of specific information from State), it will be placed before the High Level Committee (HLC) for consideration as per established procedure.

Financial assistance is provided from SDRF/ NDRF as per established procedures. The concerned State Governments undertake relief measures 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. In order to support the affected people of the State Government of Tamil Nadu, the Government of India has released both the installments of Rs. 707.40 crore from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to the State Government. In addition, as reported by the State Government, an amount of Rs. 491.62 crore is available in SDRF account as on 1st April 2018 for management of relief necessitate by notified natural calamities during 2018. In all the total Rs. 1199-02 crore is available in the State in the SDRF.

(e): As per the National Disaster Management Policy, the primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the States. There are institutional mechanisms at the National and State level in the country to develop appropriate preparedness, and prompt response mechanism for effective management of natural disasters including taking necessary measures to educate people at the time of natural calamities which include increasing awareness/ forewarning/ mock drills on various calamities/ sensitising people involving the stake holders at the State/

District and local Governments level including rural areas and reduce/ minimize the losses during/ impending such type of natural calamities in States of the country.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) monitors Severe Weather and alert State Meteorological Centers (SMCs)/ Regional Meteorological Centers (RMCs) about occurrence of severe weather in their region through daily Nowcast Guidance and Forecast Demonstration Project (FDP). State Meteorological Centers (SMCs) issue three hourly Nowcast and issue warnings through SMS at district level as and when necessary. IMD maintains and upgrades the Nowcast webpage and website to include information of severe weather events and monitor quality of various tools for nowcasting such as Radar and satellite data, and ensure interact with relevant divisions to ensure quality upkeep.

The measures as taken by the Government of India and the State Governments are expected to improve the existing disaster management practices, preparedness, prevention, & enhance the response mechanism and minimizing the effects of natural calamities in the country. Further, the strengthening of the disaster management is a continuing and evolving process of the governance.
