

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3851
ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019

IMPACT OF FLASH FLOODS

3851. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been conducted on the after affects of flash flood in Kerala and if so, the details thereof and the reasons identified for this flood;
- (b) the measures being taken to overcome the serious damages caused to the environmental balance of the State;
- (c) the financial assistance extended so far and the details of the works started including the time frame required to complete these works; and
- (d) the number of people affected due to the said flood and the details of compensation released for the affected people so far?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b) After the recent floods of August, 2018, based on the memoranda submitted by the State Government of Kerala, Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs and deputed in two spells to assess the damages in the calamity affected areas.

The preliminary assessment conducted by the Irrigation Department, Government of Kerala reveals that the topography of the land adjacent to rivers which were overflowing in the flood lost its topsoil and in some areas, the adjacent lands were totally washed away and river itself took a new course. As informed by State Government of Kerala, Haritha Keralam Mission in association with Kerala State Remote Sensing Agency has initiated a study on the morphological changes of the river bed.

After the recent floods of August, 2018, a study on the hydrological processes of the flood has been carried out by Central Water Commission (CWC). As per the study, Kerala experienced an abnormally high rainfall from 1 June, 2018 to 19 August, 2018. As per IMD data, Kerala received 2346.6 mm of rainfall from 1 June, 2018 to 19 August, 2018 in contrast to an expected 1649.5 mm of rainfall. This rainfall was about 42% above the normal.

Contd...P/2

//2//

Further, the rainfall over Kerala during 1st to 19th of August was 164% above normal. Due to heavy rainfall, the first onset of flooding occurred towards the end of July. A severe spell of rainfall was experienced at several places on the 8th and 9th of August, 2018. Another severe spell of rainfall started from the 14th of August and continued till the 19th of August, resulting in disastrous flooding in 13 out of 14 districts.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that in order to support the affected people of the State Government of Kerala, Government of India has released both the instalments of Central Share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) amounting to Rs.192.60 crore and Rs.2904.85 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to Government of Kerala for management of relief in respect of floods/ landslides of 2018, in addition to Air bills, on actual basis, based on the bills received from Indian Air Force. An amount of Rs.3405.93 cores is available in SDRF account for management of relief necessitated by natural disasters during 2018-19 by taking into account the opening balance and releases of both the installments of Central & State share of Rs.214.00 crore. As per assessment made by Central Teams, 477 human lives were lost, 76,830 cattle lost and 6.54 lakh houses damaged and 0.94 lakh ha. cropped area have been reportedly affected due to floods/ landslides in Kerala during the year 2018.
