GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.150 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH FEBRUARY, 2019

USE OF AIR FORCE HELICOPTERS

*150. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{kk ea=h be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has been asked to pay about Rs.34 crore for using the services of small planes and helicopters of the Air Force in the rescue operations during the recent floods in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments are obliged to pay for the services rendered by the Defence Ministry for relief actions in such natural calamities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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MINISTER OF STATE					(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
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(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 150 FOR ANSWER ON 13.2.2019

(a) to (d): Assistance by Armed Forces to Civil administration is governed by "Instructions on aid to Civil Authority by the Armed Forces-1970", wherein recovery of expenditure incurred by Armed Forces in aid of civil administration is specified.

As per norms of assistance from SDRF / NDRF circulated by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Air bills of the Ministry of Defence for the search and rescue operations are reimbursed from the National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) on actual basis, based on assessment of need by State Executive Committee (SEC) and recommendation of Central Team in case of NDRF.

As the fund from the NDRF can be released only to the account of the State, the air bill is required to be raised by the Ministry of Defence to the State Government, which has utilized the services. The State Government provides the verified copy of the air bill to the Ministry of Home Affairs. Then, the Ministry of Home Affairs recommends the release of fund to the Department of Expenditure, which in turn releases the amount from NDRF to the concerned State Government with clear direction that the amount is for payment to the Ministry of Defence.

During Kerala Floods, Indian Air Force (IAF) carried out 517 sorties of Fixed Wing aircraft, airlifting 3787 persons and 1350 Ton of load and 634 sorties of Helicopters, winching 584 persons and airlifting 247 Ton of load.

Bills of approximately Rs.103.71 crores have been forwarded to Kerala Government for use of IAF aircraft / helicopters for Kerala flood relief. The recoveries for providing services of IAF aircraft / helicopters are effected from all State Government and the Administration of Union Territories.
