

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4591**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28TH MARCH, 2023/ CHAITRA 7, 1945 (SAKA)

UTILISATION OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT FUND

4591. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revise the terms and conditions for utilisation of disaster management fund and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to give special assistance to State of Kerala and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has examined the utilisation of fund released to State of Kerala on account of Okhi, flood and Covid-19 and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the amount fixed for compensation for loss of various farming is very less and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total amount released to the State Government of Kerala for the management of Covid-19 and the details of expenditure incurred; and

(f) whether the Union Government proposes to revise the guidelines for utilisation of disaster management fund taking into consideration the views of the States and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (f): The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake

relief measures in the wake of natural disaster from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with approved items and norms of the Government of India. Additional financial assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the laid down procedure, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).

Under the existing State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) guidelines, there is no provision to provide special assistance to the States. However, in view of the exigencies, the Central Government can release its share of SDRF, in advance to States. Further, in the aftermath of a calamity, having severe impact and when funds available with the State Government are not found sufficient, the Central Government provides funds from NDRF, in advance, without waiting for the assessment of IMCT, so as to enable the State to provide immediate relief assistance to the affected people at the local level.

Further, the disbursal of funds from SDRF and NDRF is governed by the Guidelines and items & norms of assistance from SDRF/ NDRF, which are framed in consultation with all stakeholders, including States. Based on the recommendation of the 15th Finance Commission, revised guidelines and items & norms of expenditure of SDRF/NDRF were issued on 12th

January, 2022 and 10th October, 2022, respectively, which are available on the website of Ministry of Home Affairs at <https://ndmindia.mha.gov.in> .

Under these norms, relief assistance in the form of agriculture input subsidy paid to the affected farmers for crop loss of 33% and above, has also been revised.

As per the scheme of SDRF, the State Government is responsible to ensure that money drawn from the SDRF account is actually utilized for the purposes for which it has been set up, only on items of expenditure and as per norms approved by the Government of India (GOI). State Accountant General is required to monitor the expenditure, as per the items and norms of assistance. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India audits SDRF every year in terms of the scheme of the SDRF.

As informed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, an amount of Rs. 870.88 crore (Rs. 74.21 crore from savings of Department of Health & Family Welfare during 2019-20 + Rs. 622.78 crore under ECRP-I phase + Rs. 173.89 crore under ECRP-II phase) was released under National Health Mission (NHM) for management and control COVID-19. ECRP refer to India's Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package.
