GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1554

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12^{TH} DECEMBER, 2023/ AGRAHAYANA 21, 1945 (SAKA)

LOSSES DUE TO UNEXPECTED RAINS

†1554. SHRI KISHAN KAPOOR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the loss of life and property caused in the State of Himachal Pradesh due to unexpected rains in the month of August this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any financial assistance has been provided by the Government to Himachal Pradesh in view of the said calamity; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): As per Memorandum submitted by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh and assessed by the Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) 145 human lives and 9482 cattle head have been reported lost, 13,859 numbers of houses/ huts and 1.05 lakh hectares agriculture/ horticulture cropped area is reported to have been affected due to hydro meteorological calamities, including heavy rains in the month of August during the year 2023.

As per the National Disaster Management Policy, the primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake assessment of damages and provide relief assistance in the wake of natural disasters, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal. Additional financial assistance is extended 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).

In order to support the affected people of the State, the Central Government has released both the installments of central share of SDRF, amounting to Rs. 180.40 crore each to State, for immediate relief operations. In addition, an amount of Rs. 200.00 crore, has also been released on an 'on account' basis from NDRF to the State Government on 21st August 2023. Besides, as reported by State Accountant General, an amount of Rs. 71.51 crore is available in SDRF account of Himachal Pradesh as on 1st April 2023 for management of relief necessitated by notified natural disasters including flash flood/ flood, landslides in the affected areas during 2023.

Further, even before the receipt of the memorandum from the State

Government of Himachal Pradesh, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited the state on 19-21st July 2023. After the submission of memorandum from the State Government, IMCT visited on 28-30 September 2023 for on the spot assessment of the damages caused due to flood, landslides, cloudburst of 2023. The report of IMCT is placed before the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC)/ High Level Committee for consideration and approval of quantum of assistance from NDRF, as per the established procedure.
