

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1139
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY 26th JULY, 2021
[04SRAVANA, 1943 (SAKA)]**

‘Financial Package for North-Eastern States’

No. 1139. Shri Dilip Saikia:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of financial losses incurred on account of pandemic in North – Eastern states including Assam;
- (b) whether the Union Government has formed any group to make an assessment thereof;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) Whether the Government proposes to provide any special financial package to North-Eastern States including Assam in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof;

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)**

(a) Financial losses on account of the pandemic for India, including the North-Eastern States (Assam included) can be inferred from the latest estimates of GDP released by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI) on 31st May 2021. India’s real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is estimated to have contracted by 7.3 per cent during FY 2020-21. This contraction reflects the unparalleled effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and the containment measures that were taken to control the pandemic for the country.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Finance assesses the economic impact of the pandemic on a regular basis. Consequently, in FY 2020-21, Government had announced a special economic and comprehensive package of Rs. 29.87 lakh crore under Atmanirbhar Bharat (ANB) to combat the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, to revive economic growth and to bolster employment. Union Budget 2021-22 has announced number of measures to support broad-based and inclusive economic development including a 34.5 percent increase in capital expenditure and 137 percent increase in health expenditure. Government announced a relief package of Rs. 6.29 lakh crore in June 2021 to strengthen public health and provide impetus for growth and employment measures.

(d) & (e) North Eastern Council (NEC) under Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) released ₹. 26.09 crore as untied grant to 8 North Eastern states for activities related to combating Covid-19 pandemic. Also, NEC sanctioned grant-in-aid of Rs. 36.49 crore for livelihood Generation of migrant workers out of which Rs. 21.59 crore were released. In addition, MDoNER under the North East Special Infrastructure Scheme (NESIDS) sanctioned 8 projects in 7 North East states (except Sikkim) during the 2020-21 costing Rs. 219.58 crores for creating health infrastructure relating to COVID-19 of which Rs. 77.63 crores has been released. For effective response and management of COVID-19 pandemic and a step-up in capital expenditure Government has frontloaded the release of assistance under the back-to-back loan in lieu of GST Compensation Shortfall during FY 2021-22 in a single instalment to eligible States/UTs with Legislature. Under this mechanism, Government has released an amount of ₹836.81 cr to Assam, ₹66.51 cr to Meghalaya and 189.15 cr to Tripura recently.
