

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5478**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2022/CHAITRA 15,1944 (SAKA)**

**FUNDS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

**5478. SHRI RAJU BISTA:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) the details of funds allocated and released under Disaster Relief in the districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong and the share of Centre/State in these funds;**

**(b) whether the Government intends to develop mechanism for proper and quick assessment and timely delivery of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) relief; and**

**(c) the details of disaster management and mitigation measures undertaken in the districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c): The primary responsibility for disaster management, including disbursement of relief assistance on the ground level, rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with Government of India's approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance is granted by the Central Government from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to State Governments in the event of disaster of a severe nature, based on an assessment by an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). District-wise funds**

**allocations & releases is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government does not maintain such information of releases of funds to the districts by the States.**

**During the current financial year 2021-22, the State Government of West Bengal had been allocated Rs. 1078.40 crore under SDRF, which includes Rs 808.80 crore as central share and Rs 269.60 crore as State share. The Central share has been released, in advance, to the Government of West Bengal in two installments of Rs. 404.40 crore each. In addition, an amount of Rs. 300 crore had been released from NDRF to the State Government on an 'on account' basis in wake of cyclonic storm 'Yaas' of 2021. Besides, the State Government had a balance of Rs. 1423.01 crore on 01.04.2021 in the SDRF.**

**In the wake of cyclonic storm 'Yaas' in May-2021 and flood/landslide in July-August, 2021 in West Bengal, which included reported damages in the districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong, IMCTs constituted by Central Government visited the affected areas on 6<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 and on 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021, respectively. Based on the IMCTs reports, the High Level Committee (HLC) approved the additional financial assistance of 586.59 crore for Cyclone 'Yaas' and Rs. 475.04 crore for flood 2021 (subject to the adjustment of 50% of opening balance available in the SDRF of the State as on 01.04.2021) from NDRF.**

**Under the existing practice in vogue, IMCT used to be deputed after the receipt of Memorandum from the State Government affected by a disaster of severe nature. In order to expedite the assessment and release of additional financial assistance to States, Ministry of Home Affairs had taken a significant decision on 19.08.2019 to depute IMCT immediately in the aftermath of any natural calamity of severe nature, and without waiting for the memorandum from the State Government.**

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