GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2072

Answered on Monday, December 9, 2024/Agrahayana 18, 1946 (Saka)

Central Financial Assistance for Wayanad

2072. Adv. Adoor Prakash:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had conducted a review meeting and assured central financial assistance for relief and rehabilitation process in landslide hit Wayanad district;
- (b) if so, the details of central financial assistance provided so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

<u>ANSWER</u>

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): In the wake of landslide and flash flood in Wayanad, Kerala, Ministry of Home Affairs (nodal ministry for disaster management) had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) on 02.08.2024 to assess the damage caused without waiting for a memorandum in this regard from the State Government of Kerala. The IMCT visited the affected areas of the State from 8thAugust to 10thAugust, 2024. The State Government submitted its memorandum on 19thAugust 2024 seeking additional assistance under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). Based on the report of the IMCT, the High-Level Committee (HLC) under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister approved an amount of Rs. 153.47 crore (subject to the adjustment of 50% of balance available in the SDRF account), assistance for the Air bills of Indian Air Force (IAF) helicopters for rescue & relief, as per actual, and actual expenditure incurred by State on the clearance of debris.

In addition, an amount of Rs.388.00 crore (Rs. 291.20 crore Central Share + Rs. 96.80 crore State share) has been allocated to the State Government Kerala for the financial year 2024-25 for State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). The 1stinstalment of Rs. 145.60 crore of Central share of SDRF was released on 31.07.2024. The 2ndinstalment of Rs. 145.60 crore of Central Share was also released in advance on 01.10.2024 to the State Government. In addition, the Accountant General, Kerala has reported balance of Rs. 394.99 crore in the SDRF account of Kerala as on 1stApril, 2024. Thus, funds amounting to Rs. 782.99 crore are available in the SDRF account of the State for the relief operations.

(c): Does not arise.
