GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3102 ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003 ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD AFFECTED STATES MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether at a high level meeting chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, proposals for grant of assistance to different flood and drought affected States were considered on October 6, 2003;
- (b) if so, the details of proposal for flood relief measures made by the Government of Assam;
- (c) the extent of Central assistance granted for flood relief to various States particularly to Assam; and
- (d) the reasons for cutting short the relief sought by some of the States such as Assam Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND)

- (a): The High Level Committee (HLC) met on 3rd October, 2003 to consider requests for assistance from the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh and Orissa for floods and Karnataka for drought.
- (b): The Government of Assam had submitted a memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 1134.45 crore for relief and restoration measures for various sectors including infrastructure in the wake of floods of 2003.
- (c): Additional assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was approved for release only in the case of Orissa to the extent of Rs.104.43 crore.
- (d): As per present scheme of relief assistance based on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, funds from the CRF and NCCF can be used for providing immediate relief to the victims and for undertaking repair/restoration of infrastructure of immediate nature intrinsically connected with relief operations. Further, the assistance from the NCCF is released after taking into account the funds already available under CRF to which the Central Government contributes 75%. The HLC approved an assistance of Rs.70.72 crore for flood relief measures to Assam. However, the Government of Assam had a balance of Rs.158.61 crore available in the corpus of CRF and due to this adequate availability of funds, no additional assistance from NCCF was required to be released.