

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:9

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008

RELIEF TO STATES AFFECTED BY FLOODS

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppasamy;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Team has recently visited the flood affected districts of different States including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided by the Union Government to the States so far;
- (c) whether the State Governments have requested for further assistance to mitigate the problems of the flood affected people;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 9 FOR 26.02.2008 REGARDING "RELIEF TO STATES AFFECTED BY FLOODS"

The State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic and financial support. Financial assistance in the wake of natural calamities is provided to States through the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), allocation for which is made to various States based on the recommendations of the successive Finance Commissions. CRF is supplemented by the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of a calamity of a severe nature after following the laid down procedure.

2. Twelve States and one Union Territory viz. Andhra Pradesh (2 memoranda), Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka (3 memoranda), Orissa (2 memoranda), Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Union Territory of Pondicherry have submitted memoranda seeking additional Central assistance from NCCF for relief operations in the areas affected by floods etc. during this year, so far. Upon receipt of the memoranda, Inter-Ministerial Teams had been constituted immediately which visited all the aforesaid States, except the UT of Puducherry, for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds. The memorandum from Puducherry has been received recently and a Team has been constituted which will be visiting the UT shortly. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited Tamil Nadu during 10-12th January 2008, for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds. The report of the Central Team has been received and processed. Certain clarifications have been sought from the State

Government, which are still awaited. On receipt of clarifications, the request of the State Government will be placed before Inter Ministerial Group and High Level Committee for consideration and approval of funds from NCCF. However, the entire Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 172.88 crore for the year 2007-08 has already been released to Tamil Nadu.

3. As stated above, to ensure ready availability of funds with the States to undertake rescue and relief operations in the wake of natural calamities, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State, which is contributed by Government of India and the State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. For the year 2007-08, the allocation is of the order of Rs. 4258.85 crore, out of which 75% amounting to Rs. 3194.14 crore is the share of Government of India and 25% amounting to Rs. 1064.71 crore is the share of State Governments. During the year, an amount of Rs. 2486.31 crore has been released as Central share of CRF. The remaining share of Government of India will be released after submission of utilization certificates by the concerned States. In addition, financial assistance of Rs. 283.97 crore has also been released during the year from NCCF, which includes Rs. 50.00 crore released on an 'on account' basis to the State of Kerala for floods of 2007.

4. HLC has considered 7 memoranda of the States and approved the following assistance from NCCF. (subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance in the CRF account) :-

Andhra Pradesh (1st memorandum)

Rs. 136.053 crore + Payment of Air bills + Aviation fuel on actual basis.

Karnataka (1st memorandum)

Rs. 117.45 crore + Rs. 3.318 crore from Special Component of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

Karnataka (2nd memorandum)

121.80 crore + Rs. 1.33 crore from Special Component of ARWSP.

Orissa (1st memorandum)

Rs.59.33 crore + Rs. 0.719 crore from Special Component of ARWSP + Payment of Air bills on actual basis.

Orissa (2nd memorandum)

Rs.139.69 crore + Rs. 2.376 crore from Special Component of ARWSP.

Himachal Pradesh

Rs. 59.89 crore + Rs. 12.96 crore from Special Component of ARWSP.

Kerala

Rs. 134.396 crore + Rs. 1.32 crore from Special Component of ARWSP + release of 35,300 MTs foodgrains from special component of Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY).

5. The remaining memoranda are in various stages of processing, as per the laid down procedure. This exercise is likely to be completed shortly.

6. The Scheme of CRF and NCCF provide for assistance for immediate rescue and relief operations as well as repairs of immediate nature of damaged infrastructure with a view to provide/restore connectivity to the affected areas for reaching the relief to the affected people. The expenditure on restoration of damaged infrastructure, preparedness and mitigation measures are required to be built into the State Plans. For this purpose, the concerned State Governments are required to submit their Plan proposals for consideration of the Government. So far, no State affected by floods during 2007 has submitted its Plan proposals for the aforementioned purpose.