

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:440
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
RELIEF WORK FOR AILA
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has released the entire funds sanctioned/requested for relief and rehabilitation of people affected by the cyclonic storm Aila;
- (b) if so, the details of funds released by the Government, State-wise;
- (c) whether there are reports that the relief and rehabilitation work has not been completed so far;
- (d) if so, the status of relief and rehabilitation works and the details of the funds utilised so far;and
- (e) the time by which the pending works are likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (e): Cyclone AILA which originated in the Bay of Bengal caused severe damage in North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, East Medinipur and adjoining districts of West Bengal. No other State reported any damage due to this cyclone.

Accordingly, on the basis memorandum submitted by the State Government of West Bengal, visit of Central Team and based on the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Group the High Level Committee approved Rs.516.86 crore subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance available in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) account for immediate relief and restoration of damaged infrastructure. As such an amount of Rs.166.86 crore was released from National Calamity

Contingency Fund (NCCF) after taking into consideration to 75% of balance available in the CRF plus Rs.10 crore under Special Component of the Accelerated Rural Supply Programme by Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development.

With regard to status of relief and rehabilitation work it is stated that the State Governments concerned are primarily responsible for undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural disasters which includes distribution of relief on ground as well as execution of relief and rehabilitation works.

The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support, where necessary. Such support is given in accordance with the norms based on the recommendations of the successive Finance Commissions.

However, as per the scheme of CRF the State Government is responsible to ensure that money drawn from the CRF account is actually utilized for the purposes for which the CRF has been set up and only on item given in the norms approved by GOI. The State Accountant General is required to monitor the expenditure as per the items and norms of assistance. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India would cause audit of CRF to be conducted every year in terms of purposes of the CRF Scheme.