

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1635
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
MODERNISATION OF FIRE SERVICES
Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments regarding strengthening of fire services in their respective States;
- (b): if so, the details thereof and the total number of such proposals received during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Odisha;
- (c): the details of the action plan to modernise the fire services in the country including Odisha;
- (d): whether the Union Government proposes to provide funds for modern equipment for effectively combating fire in high-rise buildings in the States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the total funds granted/utilised during the said period, State-wise including Odisha?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): 'Fire Services' is a State subject. It has been included as a municipal function in the XIIIth schedule to the Constitution of India in terms of Article 243-W.

As such it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to ensure Strengthening of Fire & Emergency Services in their respective States.

However, based on the proposals received for various State Governments regarding Strengthening of Fire Services in their respective States, the XIIIth Finance Commission recommended an allocation of 472 crore to the seven States namely Andhra Pradesh (17 crore), Haryana (100 crore), Mizoram (20 crore), Odisha (150 crore), Tripura (15 crore), Uttar Pradesh (20 crore) and West Bengal (150 crore) for Strengthening of Fire & Emergency Services. The Government of India has already released first instalment of the grant for 124.39 crore to the above mentioned seven States.

(c) to (e): The Government of India has approved a centrally sponsored scheme at a cost of 200 crore for Strengthening of Fire & Emergency Services in the country including Odisha on 10th November, 2009. The scheme attempts to fill the existing gaps in fire fighting and rescue capability through introduction of modern equipments such as advanced fire tender, high pressure pumps with mist technology, quick response vehicles, combi tools for search and rescue and capacity building of various stakeholders. The scheme does not provide funds for combating fire in high rise buildings in the States and hence no fund have been provided for such equipments.