

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1856

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009

AMENDMENT IN NORMS FOR RELIEF

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Gowda Shri D.V. Sadananda;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from the State Governments to amend the norms for assistance from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and the National Contingency Calamity Fund (NCCF);

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the State Governments to revise the list of natural disaster for assistance under CRF and NCCF;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(e) whether the Government has issued guidelines to State Governments to create State level Disaster Management Authority/Departments for disaster management at the State and districts level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the status of implementation of the guidelines by the States, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Some State Governments have sent proposals to amend the extant norms of assistance under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/ National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). It has generally been a practice to comprehensively review and revise the items and norms of assistance immediately after the Award of the Finance Commission is accepted by the Government. The last such revision was made in 27th June 2009, after the Award of the 12th Finance Commission.

Ministry of Home Affairs on 27th October 2009 has constituted an Expert Group to review and recommend revision of the items and norms of assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for the period of Award of 13th Finance Commission viz; 2010-11 to 2014-15.

(c) & (d): Some State Governments have also requested for inclusion of disasters in the list of identified natural disasters. The issue of inclusion of specific natural disaster in the list of identified natural disasters for the purpose of incurring expenditure from CRF/ NCCF comes under the purview of the successive Finance Commissions. The present list of notified natural calamities, which is based on the Award of 12th Finance Commission operative during the years 2005-06 to 2009-10, consists of cyclone, drought, earthquake/ tsunami, fire, flood, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloud burst and pest attack.

The State Governments also submit their proposals regarding inclusion of new calamities to the Finance Commission, for consideration and its inclusion in the identified list of natural disasters.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in its memorandum submitted to the 13th Finance Commission for consideration, has inter-alia suggested the inclusion of sea erosion, cold wave/ heat wave, frost and lightning in the list of calamities eligible for relief under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF/ National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

(e) & (f) The Union Government had recommended to all the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to convert their State Departments of Relief and Rehabilitation into Departments of Disaster Management with the responsibility of looking at the whole cycle of disaster management i.e. prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, relief and rehabilitation.

As per available information, the States/ Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Daman & Diu, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have converted/ redesignated their concerned Departments so as to include Disaster Management in their nomenclature.

As per available information, all States/UTs except Jharkhand have constituted State Disaster Management Authority. Statements showing the status of State Disaster Management Authorities/ District Disaster Management Authorities established under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 are at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

