

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.274  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013  
COMPENSATION FOR NATURAL CALAMITIES  
Viswanathan Shri P.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the criteria for agriculture input subsidy for damage caused to crops due to natural calamities, crop-wise;  
(b) whether any representation has been received to revise the said criteria; and  
(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): "Relief means help to reduce the level of suffering and mitigate the distress so as to bring out the affected people from the shock and trauma of suddenly losing their means of livelihood. Further, the main objective of the relief fund is to assist the affected persons to start their economic activities again. On the other hand, compensation would be towards replacement of the damage in financial terms. Compensation would be a part of contractual agreement whereby unnatural dispossession of wealth and property, insurance is one of such instruments. On the other hand, relief is by way of gratuitous assistance as an immediate help to overcome the stress. The present guidelines of State Disaster Response Fund / National Disaster Response Fund are not for compensation of loss.

However, Financial assistance in the wake of notified natural calamities is provided to States through the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which is supplemented by the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in cases of calamities of a severe nature.

Further, the expenditure from relief fund is to be incurred in accordance with the items and norms of assistance approved by the Government of India for the notified natural calamities only.

With regard to the revision of the norms of assistance, it has generally been a practice to review these after the award of successive Finance Commissions are accepted by the Government. Following the implementation of recommendation of XII th Finance Commission with regard to its awards of grant to the States for response and relief, the Government of India constituted an Expert Group. The Expert Group consulted all the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries/ Departments. On the basis of all such inputs, the Expert Group submitted their report. Further, taking into account various factors including the report of the expert group and price rise, Government of India issued order on revised items and norms of assistance under NDRF and SDRF on 16th January 2012. As partial modifications was on 28th September 2012. The Government of India has recently approved the norms of certain items related to fully damaged pucca houses, gratuitous relief, agriculture input subsidy, fodder/ feed concentrate in cattle camps of assistance from SDRF/ NDRF, which was further modified on 21.6.2013. These norms are available on the Ministry of Home Affairs website: [www.ndmindia.nic.in](http://www.ndmindia.nic.in).

The Extant norms inter-alia provide for assistance to the farmers in the form of Agriculture input subsidy for damage caused to cropped areas due to the notified natural calamities only. As such under the SDRF/ NDRF norms assistance is provided in the form of input subsidy towards cropped areas-wise and not specific crop-wise assistance. Details of assistance admissible to Small & Marginal Farmers (SMF) as per extant items & norms are under:-

Sl. No Item Norms of Assistance  
Assistance to small and marginal for:-

a) De-silting of agricultural land Rs. 8,100/- per hectare  
(where thickness of sand/ silt deposit is more than 3", to be certified by the competent authority of the State Government.)

b) Removal of debris on Rs. 8,100/- per hectare  
agriculture land

c) Desilting/ restoration/ repair Rs. 8,100/- per hectare  
of fish farms

d) Loss of substantial portion of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare to  
land caused by landslide, avalanche, only those small and marginal  
change of course of rivers. farmers whose ownership of the land is legitimate as per the revenue records.

e) Agriculture input subsidy where  
crop loss was 50% and above.

1. For agriculture crops, horticulture  
crops and annual plantation crops

i) Rainfed crops Rs. 4,500/- per hectare in rainfed areas

ii) Irrigated crops Rs. 9,000/- per hectare for areas under  
assured irrigation, subject to minimum assistance not less than Rs.750 and restricted to sown areas.

iii) Perennial crops Rs. 12,000/- per hectare for all type of perennial crops, subject to minimum assistance not less than Rs. 1500/- and restricted to sown areas.

2. Sericulture Rs. 3,200/- per ha. for Eri, Mulberry, Tussar Rs. 4,000/- per ha. for Muga.