

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1458
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
RECONSTRUCTION WORK IN UTTARAKHAND
Karunakaran Shri P.; Tamta Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of reconstruction work including those undertaken in coordination with other agencies and by the Indian Army in the aftermath of the natural calamity in Uttarakhand, particularly at Kedarnath;
- (b) whether rehabilitation of the affected people has been progressing satisfactorily;
- (c) the amount of compensation provided to the affected families including the number of families who have received the compensation and the number of families yet to receive the said compensation, so far;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate guidelines for tourism/effect changes in the tourism policy for hilly areas particularly in Uttarakhand, in consultation with the concerned Ministry so that incidents of deaths among civil population due to natural calamities could be reduced; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a): As per information received from the State Government of Uttarakhand, all major roads including Rishikesh - Badrinath, Rudraprayag- Sonprayag, Rishikesh- Gangotri and Rishikesh - Yamunotri have been restored for smooth vehicular traffic. The pedestrian track between Kedarnath and Gaurikund has been restored. Pedestrian route beyond Bhimbali has however been constructed along left bank of Mandakini and the same passes through Linchauli. All affected power system and drinking water supply lines have been restored.

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Further, it is mentioned that State Government have undertaken various activities for the permanent restoration and reconstruction of road network in the State, which includes (i) Around 6,553 kilometers of village roads and other District Roads amounting to Rs. 970.30 crores under World Bank supported Uttarakhand Disaster Recovery Project over three years, (ii) Around 2,183 kilometers of State Highways, Major District Roads amounting to Rs. 636 crores under Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported Uttarakhand Emergency Assistance project during the coming three years, (iii) Around 1,159 kilometers of roads amounting to Rs. 964.32 crores under ADB Uttarakhand State Road Investment Program, (iv) Around 4,954 kilometers of roads amounting to Rs. 2,005 crores are being reconstructed under State Plan, (v) Major reconstruction of National Highways, urban roads, bridle paths, trekking routes and bridle bridges undertaken by the National Highway Authority, BRO and PMGSY. Due to extreme exigencies and in utmost national interest and with a view to restore Char Dham Yatra, the Government of Uttarakhand invested substantial amount in the roads owned by BRO and NHAI.

River channelisation and bank stabilisation works have also been undertaken at Kedarnath. Accommodation for tourists and pilgrims has been provided at Kedarnath and Linchauli.

(b): With regard to rehabilitation, the State Government has mentioned that all the affected 2507 families who had lost their houses, have been brought within the ambit of World Bank funded "Disaster Resilient Housing Project". The financial components of these houses stand as to:- (i) Through SDRF/ NDRF/ CMRF- 2.0 lakhs. (ii) Through World Bank- Rs. 5.0 lakhs to be given in three installments of 2.0 lakh, 2.0 lakh and 1.0 lakh each which is given on the principles of construction linked payments. (iii) In the construction of these houses, the disaster resilient technology is being used. (iv) These houses are expected to complete by June 2015. (v) Till the reconstruction work is completed the affected families are being provided Rs. 3,000 per month as house rent.

(c): With regard to compensation, it is mentioned that financial assistance is towards relief and not for compensation of loss as suffered. The State Government informed that financial relief/ compensation has been paid to the next of kin of 934 persons of Uttarakhand who died in June 2013 disaster in Uttarakhand. Of the 3184 persons of other States, who were missing in the disaster, financial relief/ compensation along with Death Certificate have been provided to the next of kin of 2806 persons found eligible in accordance with the guidelines issued for the same by Registrar General of India. Financial relief to all other categories of disaster victims found eligible for relief has also been provided.

(d) to (e): At present, this Ministry does not have any proposal to formulate guidelines for tourism/ to effect change in the tourism policy for hilly areas to reduce incidents of deaths of civil population due to natural disaster, as regulation to control the number of pilgrims in the matter does not come under the domain of MHA.

However, the State Government of Uttarakhand has taken the following safety measures for tourists/ pilgrims visiting Uttarakhand:

Registration of pilgrims is being done for safety and regulating entry of the pilgrims in ecologically sensitive areas.

Coordination with India Meteorological Department, Central Water Commission and Indian Space Research Organisation for providing specific information and warnings

Strengthening of weather related communication and warning dissemination network

Setting up of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) for effective response during disaster.

Pre-positioning of National Disaster Response Force and SDRF at vulnerable locations

Setting up of 50 new helipads in vulnerable areas for effective rescue and evacuation.

Kedamath helipads at Linchauli, Gaurikund and Bhimbali have been made operational.

Pre-positioning of necessary equipments at vulnerable locations for timely clearance of debris and

Stocking of essential supplies like medicines, foodgrains, POL etc.

Strengthening of state and district disaster management systems

Preparation of State and district disaster management plans

Activation of state and district level Emergency Operation Centre on 24X7 basis

Help line number and medical posts have been opened for pilgrims.

Development of alternate routes.