

**National Disaster Response Fund**

†2104. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to deal with the devastation caused by the natural calamities promptly, Government has decided to set up a National Disaster Response Fund of 100 crore rupees;

(b) if so, for which natural calamities, States will be provided economic assistance out of this fund;

(c) whether in the event of flood and drought also, the States will be provided fund under this fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) Government have approved on 26th November, 2007 the constitution of National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) with an initial corpus of Rs. 100 crore to be placed at the disposal of the National Executive Committee constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

The constitution of the National Disaster Response Fund is as per the provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005 which is to be applied towards meeting the expenses from emergency response, relief and rehabilitation in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Central Government in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority.

As per Disaster Management Act, 2005, disaster has been given a broad definition and it includes all natural/man made calamities. Therefore National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) can be utilized for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation measures in the event of floods and drought also.

**Studies regarding participants of Goa Liberation Movement**

2105. SHRI VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any studies regarding the participants of Goa Liberation Movement;

(b) if so, the details including the reasons in details for restricting the communication F.No. 8/10/900-FF(P) dated 17.02.2003 to Chief Secretaries of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana, Goa, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, category-wise;

(c) the source of information to establish that above communication is not applicable to Kerala;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to grant above pension to all the eligible participants from States like Kerala; and

(e) if not, the details of reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (e) No, Sir. It may, however, be mentioned that the Goa Liberation Movement, which is one of the movements recognised for the purpose of pension, had three phases. The freedom fighters, who participated in Phases I and III of this Movement

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and who fulfilled the eligibility criteria prescribed under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, were granted pension. But the freedom fighters who participated in Phase II of the Movement were left out, as they did not fulfill the conditions laid down under the Scheme.

In view of the representations received from various quarters, the Government on 4.2.2003 decided to grant central pension to approximately 3500 participants of Phase II of Goa Liberation Movement (1954-55) from the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Goa by relaxing the eligibility criteria of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. The Chief Secretaries of these States were accordingly informed of the decision and requested vide Ministry of Home Affairs letter No. 8/10/99-FF(P) dated 17th February, 2003 to forward the applications of eligible freedom fighters with verification report of the State Government. At the time of taking the above decision, information that some freedom fighters from Kerala had also participated in GLM Phase II and the State Government had granted them pension, was not available.

#### **Road accidents in Delhi**

2106. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who lost their lives and were seriously injured in road accidents in Delhi during 2007 separately;

(b) the number of deaths out of them caused by blue line buses, DTC buses, Trucks (heavily loaded or otherwise) and by other means to be specified; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for better road safety on Delhi roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given below:

Type of Vehicle	Year 2007	
	Person killed	Person seriously injured
Blue Line buses	163	56
DTC Buses	51	20
Trucks	305	103
Other means	1652	641
Total	2171	820

(c) As per enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

*Details of steps taken (proposed to be taken) for better road safety on Delhi roads.*

1. Education awareness of general public by distribution of Road Safety Literature among various categories of road users with an object of inculcating better road discipline among them.
2. Special emphasis on defensive driving, lane driving, driving at roundabouts and general traffic rules to be observed on Delhi roads.