

No request/memorandum has been received so far from Govt of Assam for additional financial assistance from NCCF in the wake of flash floods/floods during South West Monsoon 2009.

Persons affected by Aila Cyclone

2786. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of persons affected by the Aila cyclone;
- (b) what is the total number of households affected;
- (c) whether the West Bengal Government has come up with concrete proposals of constructing concrete dams on the embankments; and
- (d) if so, then what is the Central Government planning in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the State Government, about 63.90 lakh population affected, 137 human lives lost, and about 8.95 lakh houses have been fully/partially damaged due to cyclonic storm 'Aila' of May 2009.

(c) and (d) A Task Force on "Restoration of Sunderbans embankments damaged by the cyclone 'AILA'" was constituted on 11th June, 2009 by Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Government of India to assess the extent of damage to Sunderbans embankments caused by cyclone 'AILA' and to suggest short-term as well as long-term remedial measures to prevent further breaches and flooding of the areas in future.

In the meeting of the Task Force held on 27.6.2009 at Kolkata; Government of West Bengal submitted preliminary designs and a rough estimate of Rs. 5340.00 crore is projected for completing the short term measures/works within a period of three years. The Government of West Bengal was advised by the Task Force to prepare Detailed Project Report(s) in consultation with Central Water Commission (CWC/ Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) under the guidance of the, Task Force and submit for appraisal to Technical Appraisal Committee of MoWR through GFCC. Thereafter, it would be considered under the State Sector Scheme "Flood Management Programme" (FMP) of MoWR.

Further, Planning Commission has already been approached by MoWR for enhancement of the Plan outlay to Rs.8000 crore with a budget provision of Rs.1500 crore in the current financial year under "FMP" scheme for the above purpose.

Need to amend Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005

2787. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 'The Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005' and 'The Private Security Agencies Model Rules, 2005' do not guarantee minimum wages, P.F., ESI, Bonus, Leave etc. for private security guards; and

(b) if so, whether Government will make suitable amendment in the Act and Rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Section 13(1)(j) of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005 already mandates compliance of the provisions of various Acts given in the Schedule to the said Act which include (i) the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, (ii) the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, (iii) the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, (iv) the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, (v) the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, (vi) the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, (vii) the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, (viii) the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 and (ix) The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1976. Non-compliance of these provisions may result in cancellation of licence to the concerned person by the respective Controlling Authority.

Inclusion of lightning and sea erosion in natural calamities

2788. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Kerala has a Coastal belt extending to a stretch of 580 kms and encroachment thereon by people causes vast damages every year, particularly during monsoon season and several cases of death due to lightning are reported during monsoon season;

(b) if so, whether State Government has demanded inclusion of lightning and sea erosion in the list of natural calamities for providing relief/assistance under CRF/NCCF and placing the demand for the consideration of 13th Finance Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The issue of inclusion of specific calamities in the list of identified natural calamities for the purpose of incurring expenditure from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) comes under the purview of the successive Finance Commissions. The concerned State Governments are required to submit their proposals regarding inclusion of new calamities to the Finance Commission, for consideration and its inclusion in the notified list of natural calamities.

The 12th Finance Commission, the Award of which is in operation during the year 2005-10, had also *inter-alia* considered the proposals for inclusion of lightning and soil erosion, however not recommended to include them in the list of notified natural calamities qualifying for assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in its memorandum submitted to the 13th Finance Commission, has *inter-alia* suggested the inclusion of calamities of sea erosion and lightning in the list of calamities eligible for relief under CRF/NCCF.