

The State Government of Odisha has been allocated an amount of Rs. 453.31 crore (Rs. 339.98 crore as Central contribution and Rs. 113.33 crore as State contribution) in State Disaster Response Fund for the year 2013-14. The 1st installment of Central share amounting to Rs. 169.99 crore was released to State Government on 13th June, 2013. In addition, to support the affected people of the State, the Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 1,000 crore to the State Government for relief and rehabilitation.

However, the financial assistance from response fund is towards immediate relief and not for compensation of loss. The main objective of the response fund is to assist the affected persons to start their economic activities again. The relief is by way of gratuitous assistance as an immediate help to overcome the stress.

In order to strengthen the existing disaster management system, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 was enacted and notified on December 26, 2005. The Act provides for institutional mechanisms for holistic, coordinated, and prompt disaster management plans and ensures measures by various wings of Government for prevention, mitigating and minimizing the effects of calamities. All these measures are expected to improve the existing disaster management practices, preparedness, mitigation, control and enhance the response mechanism to deal with natural disasters including cyclone and floods in the country including coastal district of Odisha.

To mitigate the vulnerability of the coastal districts including Odisha from the cyclone, the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP), to be implemented in Cyclone Prone Coastal States/UTs has been approved at a cost of Rs. 1496.71 crore to upgrade cyclone forecasting, tracking and warning systems and capacity building in multi-hazared risk management; and to construct major infrastructure including multipurpose cyclone shelters and embankments.

Steps to curb financing of Maoists

1457. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maoists collect about Rs. 140 crore annually from a variety of sources;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has traced the Maoist money trail; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government is taking to choke the finances of Maoists and launch proceedings against industrialists or persons who are financing Maoists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (c) The main source of funds for the Maoists include extortion from tendu patta contractors, infrastructure/development work contractors, businessmen, corporate houses, etc. In addition, they rob banks and public/private property to augment their finances. The Left Wing Extremists groups, particularly the CPI (Maoist), extort considerable 'levy' from various illegal mining mafia groups in the naxal-affected States. Though, an exact quantification of their finances is not possible, it has been assessed in a study conducted by the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA), Delhi, that the CPI (Maoist) party has been collecting not less than Rs. 140 crores annually from a variety of sources.

(d) The State Governments concerned initiate legal action whenever such instances of extortion come to their notice. The Seventh Report of Second Administrative Reforms Commission had recommended setting up of special anti-extortion and anti-money laundering cells by the State Police/State Governments. The Ministry of Mines has informed that the State Governments have been advised to establish such cells to prevent the nexus between illegal mining/forest contractors/transporters and the extremists. Besides, the LWE affected States have been advised to curb the flow of funds to the naxals from tendu-patta collection by making certain changes in the policy.

Extremist groups active in North-East States

1458. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is unable to control the extremist groups active in North-East States; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?