

Request by A.P. Government to declare Hudhud cyclone as national calamity

1161. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the devastation caused by Hudhud super cyclone to Andhra Pradesh in the month of October, 2014;
- (b) whether it is a fact that CM of A.P. has written a letter to the Union Government for immediate release of ₹2000 crores for rescue and relief operations;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that CM of A.P. has requested to declare it as a national calamity; and
- (d) if so, what steps the Ministry has taken to help the State in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJUJU): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The concerned State Governments are required to undertake necessary relief measures of immediate nature in the cyclone 'Hudhud' affected areas out of the funds readily available in the corpus of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) as per norms. Financial assistance is towards relief and not for compensation of loss as suffered. Additional expenditure, if any, incurred over and above or on other than approved items/norms, is required to be met by the States from their own resources and not from SDRF/NDRF.

With regard to declaring a national calamity, it is informed that there is no provision to declare a natural calamity as a 'national calamity/disaster' in the guidelines. However, the Government of India adjudges a calamity of 'severe nature' on case-to-case basis taking into account *inter-alia* the intensity and magnitude of the calamity, level of relief assistance, capacity of the State Government to tackle the Problem, the alternatives and flexibility available with the plan to provide succor and relief etc. The priority is immediate relief and response assistance in the context of a natural calamity. As such there is no fixed prescribed norms. However, for calamity of a 'severe nature', additional assistance is also considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), after following the established procedure. Keeping in view of the intensity and magnitude of cyclone 'Hudhud' of October 2014 in Andhra Pradesh, it has been adjudged a calamity of a 'severe nature' for all practical purposes.

In order to support the affected people of the State, the Government of India has released assistance of ₹515.42 crore (₹115.42 cr. From SDRF + ₹400 crore for (NDRF) to Andhra Pradesh for immediate relief operations.

The Government of India has provide all possible logistics assistance like deployment of the Army, Air Force, Navy, National Disaster Response Force at strategic locations, sufficient food, medicines, satellite phone etc., to the affected State Governments for managing the cyclone and its aftermath.

Communal violence Bill

1162. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced any Bill in the House on communal violence;

(b) if so, the details of the main provisions of the Bill;

(c) whether Government proposes to take Bill for consideration in the next Session;

(d) whether any consensus has been arrived at the provision of the Bill; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (e) A Bill titled “The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005” was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5.12.2005. Despite Notices on several occasions, the Bill could not be taken up for consideration on those occasions. Subsequently, a new Bill titled “The Prevention of Communal Violence (Access to Justice & Reparations) Bill, 2013” was prepared. Notices for the introduction of the said Bill and withdrawal of earlier Bill titled “The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005” were given on 17.12.2013 and 20.1.2014 in the Rajya Sabha. The House after a discussion in the Rajya Sabha on 5.2.2014, deferred the introduction of the Bill titled “The Prevention of Communal Violence (Access to Justice & Reparations) Bill, 2014”. However, the Bill titled “The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005” was withdrawn on 5.2.2014.

Private Detective Agencies (Regulation) Bill, 2007

1163. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Private Detective Agencies (Regulation) Bill, 2007 has been examined by Government after the Standing Committee submitted its report;

(b) whether the Bill is proposed to be taken up for consideration in the ensuing Parliament Session; and