

Tracing missing passengers who left from Kerala coast

1323. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about 243 passengers who left Kerala coast in a boat on 12th January, 2019;
- (b) if so, what measures have been taken to trace them;
- (c) whether Government has any information about the boat in which they left the coast and its destination;
- (d) why Government machinery has failed to trace these people and resolve the mystery about them; and
- (e) whether their relatives have approached the Government in this regard and if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (e) As per available information, around 105 persons, sailed out of Munambam Harbour in Kerala, on 12.01.2019, on a fishing boat named 'Dayamatha-2' .

The Indian Coast Guard launched an intensive search operation to locate the boat using ships, hovercraft and aircraft. Information related to the case has been shared with the Interpol and other agencies in order to locate the missing boat and its occupants. No information about the whereabouts of the boat has been received as yet.

Criminal cases have been registered by Kerala Police under Sections 468, 471, 109 and 120 B of IPC, 12(1) (a) of Passport Act, 14A (b) and (c) of the Foreigners Act and 24(1) (a) of Immigration Act and 3 persons who assisted the illegal movement have been arrested. A special team of Kerala police has been constituted for investigation. Some of the relatives of illegal emigrants have filed a complaint at Ambedkar Nagar Police Station, New Delhi for tracing out the missing persons.

Restricting intruders with adoption of space technology

1324. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government was able to successfully restrict the intruders after adoption of space technology in this regard;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is applying this technology only in specific areas or on pan-India basis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (d) A Technical Consultancy Group (TCG) has been constituted by MHA for planning, provisioning and monitoring the use of Space Technology towards effective Border management. The areas identified for use of space technology are Island Development and Security, Border Surveillance, Communication and Navigation, GIS and Operations Planning System and Border Infrastructure Monitoring.

Assessment of loss of lives and property due to cyclone Fani

1325. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has assessed the total loss of human lives and properties like houses, telecommunication, power generation, electricity transmission, road communication, agriculture and animal husbandry, etc. caused by cyclone Fani in Odisha, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the aggregate loss in terms of money assessed by Central Government and how much financial assistance has so far been provided to Odisha and what more assistance the Union Government proposes to give; and
- (c) whether Central Government would consider according special category status to Odisha in view of repeated severe natural calamities in the State amongst other reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. Central Government extends all possible logistics and financial support to the States to supplement their efforts to meet the situation effectively. The State Governments undertake assessment of damages and provide financial relief in the wake of natural disasters including cyclone, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal. Additional financial assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the laid down procedure, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).