

- (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).

In order to support the people of Odisha affected by cyclone ‘Fani’ Central Government had released in advance an assistance of ₹ 340.875 crore from SDRF on 29th April 2019. Further, in pursuance to the visit made by Prime Minister to Odisha after the cyclone, Central Government had released an additional financial assistance of ₹ 1,000 crore to Government of Odisha on 7th May 2019. In the instant case, even before the receipt of memorandum from State Government of Odisha, IMCT visited the affected areas of the State from 12th to 15th May 2019 for rapid assessment of damages. Odisha State has submitted a memorandum seeking an assistance of ₹ 5227.68 crore from NDRF. IMCT visited the State from 20th to 22nd June 2019 again for an on-the-spot assessment of damages caused by the cyclone 'Fani'. Upon receipt of report from the IMCT, further financial assistance under NDRF will be considered as per laid down procedure.

(c) The Fourteenth Finance Commission has not made any distinction between special and general category States, and the status of special category State does not exist today.

Action plan on women’s safety

1326. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient aspects of draft ‘ Action Plan on Women’ s Safety’ ;
- (b) the details of steps taken to enhance safety and security of women in the country; and
- (c) the details of the proposed ‘ National Policy on Women’ s Safety’ and the timeline fixed for launching of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) The Government accords utmost priority to the safety of women in the country. For effective deterrence, the Government has enacted the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, which *inter-alia* prescribes more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years. To provide for swift administration of justice in rape cases, it mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each. In order to ensure that the amendments in law effectively translate at ground level, and to enhance women safety in the country, the Government has undertaken implementation of a number of measures as below:—

- (i) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has launched an online analytic tool for police called “Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences” to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with