GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1660

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH MARCH, 2022/ PHALGUNA 25, 1943 (SAKA) STRENGTHENING EWDS

1660. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what quantum of funds of the ₹800 crores as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission has been disbursed to the State of Odisha to further strengthen the Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS);
- (b) the States in which EWDS exists and whether there are plans to expand such a system to other States in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c): In view of the untied resources with the State Governments and the fiscal commitments of the Central Government, no grant has been provided in this regard.

As per the recommendations of 15th Finance Commission, States, including the State of Odisha, can utilize State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) and Preparedness and Capacity Building funding window under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for setting up / further strengthening of EWDS.

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India Meteorological Department (IMD) has demonstrated its capability to provide early warning for Cyclones with high precision. IMD has continuously expanded its infrastructure for various activities including forecasting and warning services using contemporary technology. IMD uses a suite of quality observations from Satellites, Radars and Conventional & Automatic Weather Stations for monitoring of cyclones developing over the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. It includes INSAT 3D, 3DR and SCATSAT satellites, Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs) along the coast and coastal Automated Weather Stations (AWS), High wind speed recorders, Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGS), Meteorological buoys and ships.

Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has commissioned four new Doppler Weather Radars (DWRs) at Srinagar, Sonamarg, Kufri, and Mukteshwar. These radars are intended to provide information on severe weather events and support the disaster management authorities.

National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) is a centrally sponsored project and Phase-I of the project had been completed in December, 2018 in two Coastal States of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. Under this project, details of EWDS installed and commissioned in the States of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh are as under:-

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SI.NO.	Item	Andhra Pradesh	Odisha
1.	Sites/Locations (No.)	255	122
2.	Alert Sirens (No.)	153	122
3.	Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)	238	238
	Installation (No.)		
4.	Satellite Terminal (No.)	20	14

Under Phase-II of NCRMP, installation and commissioning of EWDS is identified for three States namely Goa, Karnataka and Kerala at a financial outlay of Rs. 126.73 Crore. The timeline for completion of EWDS in these States is 15th September, 2022.

Government has also approved Pan-India implementation of 'Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based Integrated Alert System' for integration of all alerting agencies, [Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Central Water Commission (CWC), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Defence Geo-informatics Research Establishment (DGRE), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Forest Survey of India (FSI)]. CAP is a centralized web-based platform which will modernize the disaster alerting mechanism of the country, using the information and communication technology and enhance the last mile connectivity.
