

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 31
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2023

COMPENSATION FOR LAND SUBSIDENCE AT JOSHIMATH

31. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to undertake a detailed study of the land at other major hill stations across the country considering the serious land subsidence that took place at Joshimath in Uttarakhand;
- (b) whether Government is planning to stop or control further residential/commercial construction work at other major hill stations, if so, the details of steps being planned by Government;
- (c) the details of plan of Government to give compensation to those in Joshimath who had to vacate their residences; and
- (d) any compensation planned for owners of commercial properties at Joshimath, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) and (d) As per National policy on Disaster Management, the primary responsibility of disaster management including disbursement of relief and the rehabilitation of the people affected due to disaster rests with the State Government concerned. The Central Government provides necessary financial and logistics support as per established procedure.

Many parts of the hill towns in the country have unstable and dynamic geology. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has prepared landslide susceptibility maps for the hill areas. These maps are to be taken into account by the local administration in development planning.

In hill stations, there is no blanket ban on Residential/ commercial construction. However, the local administration can take a decision on imposing restrictions, based on hazard risks.

Due to recent land-subsidence in Joshimath in Chamoli District of Uttarakhand, many structures have been reported to have moderate to major damages. As reported by the State Government, cracks have been observed in 863 buildings and after taking into consideration safety of people, 296 families with 995 members have been shifted to safer places.

The State Government has issued orders for payment of Rs. 1,00,000 as an advance for rehabilitation, and Rs. 50,000 as displacement allowance to each affected family and for this purpose, Rs. 45 crores have been released. As on 30.01.2023, a total of 235 affected families have been distributed Rs. 3.50 Crores as relief assistance. State Government has arranged temporary accommodation for the affected families for which Rs 950 per room per day, and for meals, Rs. 450 per person is being provided. Those not availing these temporary accommodation, an allowance of Rs. 5,000 per month is being provided to affected families for 6 months. Free medical check-ups and free medicines are also provided to the affected people in the relief camps. Further, all possible efforts have been taken for relief and rehabilitation in close coordination with the State Government.

The Central Government and State Government are working in close coordination with all the agencies concerned to mitigate the effect of land subsidence in Joshimath area.
