PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

UNION MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION, SHRI AMIT SHAH APPROVES RELEASE BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF 2ND INSTALLMENT OF CENTRAL SHARE OF STATE DISASTER RELIEF FUND (SDRF)

THIS STEP OF THE MODI GOVERNMENT WILL FACILITATE STATE GOVERNMENTS TO HAVE ENOUGH FUNDS IN THEIR SDRF TO MEET EXPENSES ON GRANTING EX-GRATIA TO NEXT OF KIN OF DECEASED DUE TO COVID-19

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAD ISSUED ORDER ON 25.09.2021, REVISING ITEMS AND NORMS OF ASSISTANCE UNDER SDRF, MAKING A PROVISION FOR GRANT OF EX-GRATIA PAYMENT TO NEXT OF KIN OF DECEASED DUE TO COVID-19

ENABLING PROVISION MADE TO IMPLEMENT GUIDELINES ISSUED BY NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NDMA) IN COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER PASSED BY HON'BLE SUPREME COURT

September 30, 2021

Government of India had issued an order on 25.09.2021, revising the items and norms of assistance under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), making therein a provision for grant of ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of the deceased due to Covid-19. This enabling provision in SDRF norms has been made so as to implement the guidelines issued by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on 11.09.2021 in compliance with the order passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in WPs (Civil No.539/2021 & 554/2021) dated 30.06.2021.

This step of the Modi Government will facilitate State Governments to have enough funds in their SDRF.The Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah has approved release of the 2nd Instalment of the Central share of the SDRFamounting to **Rs 7,274.40 crore**, in advance, to 23 States. 5 States have already been released,in advance, the 2nd instalment amounting to **Rs 1,599.20 crore**.

The State Governments willnow have an amount of **Rs23,186.40crore**in their SDRF including State's share, during the financial year 2021-22, in addition to the amount of opening balance available in their SDRF, to meet the expenses for granting ex-gratia to the next of kin of the deceased due to COVID-19 and for providing relief on other notified calamities.

NW/RK/AY/RR