

Regarding nNeed for establishment of a Disaster Management Centre in Kalahandi, Odisha-Laid

SHRIMATI MALVIKA DEVI (KALAHANDI): I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards the urgent need for establishing a full-fledged Disaster Management Centre in Kalahandi district of Odisha. It is required at Kalahandi as Kalahandi is the central point for many districts of Odisha. Kalahandi is highly vulnerable to multiple disasters such as flash floods, droughts, heatwaves, lightning incidents, cyclonic impacts, forest fires that recur every year severely affecting lives, agriculture and rural infrastructure. We have Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) headquartered in Bhubaneswar and there is no dedicated district-level disaster management centre in Kalahandi with real-time monitoring, early-warning systems, emergency response units, rapid communication facilities. Given geographical spread of Kalahandi, the villages are located in remote and interior regions, hence, absence of an institutional centre leads to delays in coordination and response during emergencies. Setting up a Disaster Management Centre with a 24×7 control room, trained personnel, modern equipment, community-based disaster preparedness units would greatly enhance local resilience and save lives during natural calamities. I therefore urge the Government to sanction and establish a Disaster Management Centre in Kalahandi at the earliest, and ensure that the district receives the necessary resources, technology, and manpower to respond effectively to disasters.