



ABSTRACT

Disaster Management Act, 2005 – Constitution of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) under the section 48 (1) (c) of Disaster Management Act, 2005 - Guidelines – Orders - Issued.

REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT **DISASTER MANAGEMENT WING, D.M.III (2) SECTION**

G.O. (Ms) No.92

Dated 28.02.2022

பிலவ-மாசி 16,

திருவள்ளூர்வராண்டு, 2053

Read:

1. From the Deputy Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (Disaster Management Division), Letter F.No.33-03/2021-NDM-I, dated 18.02.2021 and 11.09.2021.
2. From the Additonal Chief Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration letter No.NC.III(1)/877/2020, dated 28.08.2021 and 29.01.2022.
3. G.O.(Ms) No.91, Revenue and Disaster Management [DM.3(2)],Department,dated 28.02.2022.

ORDER:

In the Government Order third read above, orders have been issued for Constitution of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) under the section 48 (1) (c) of Disaster Management Act, 2005.

2. Accordingly, the Guidelines on Constitution and administration of Tamil Nadu State Disaster Mitigation Fund is annexed to this order.

(By order of the Governor)

KUMAR JAYANT
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Secretary/Commissioner of
Revenue Administration,
Chepauk, Chennai-600 005.
The Director, Disaster Management
Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency
Chepauk, Chennai-5
All the District Collectors.

Copy to:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Office, Chennai-600 009.

The Special Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister
for Revenue & DM Department, Chennai-9

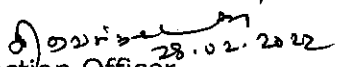
The Special Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister
for Finance & H.R.M. Department, Chennai-9

The Finance (Revenue/BG-I/BC/FC) Department,
Chennai-9

The Private Secretary to Chief Secretary to Government,
Chennai-9.

Revenue & D.M. (OP.II) Department
SF/SC.

// Forwarded by Order //


28.02.2022
Section Officer.

Annexure to G.O.(Ms) No.92, Revenue & Disaster Management
[DM.3(2)]Department, dated 28.02.2022

Guidelines on Constitution and Administration of the
Tamil Nadu State Disaster Mitigation Fund (TNSDMF)

Introduction:

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (hereinafter called as DM Act, 2005) defines mitigation as 'measures aimed at reducing the risk, impact or effects of a disaster or threatening disaster situation'.

2. The State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) is constituted under the section 48 (1) (c) of the DM Act, 2005. This fund is exclusively for the purpose of mitigation projects in respect of disasters covered under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)/ National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) Guidelines and the State specific local disasters notified by the Government of Tamil Nadu from time to time. The Mitigation Fund shall be used for those local level and community-based interventions, which reduce the risks and promote environment-friendly habitats and livelihood practices. Large-scale mitigation interventions such as construction of coastal walls, flood embankments, support for drought resilience etc. shall be pursued through the mainstreaming of development plans for disaster risk reduction and not from the mitigation fund.

3. Mitigation measures can be structural and non-structural.

Structural measures:

Structural mitigation measures include any physical construction to reduce or avoid possible impacts of hazards, or the application of engineering techniques or technology to achieve hazard resistance and resilience in structures or systems. These measures attempt to strengthen and endure future disasters like cyclones and earthquakes.

Non-Structural measures:

It does not involve physical construction but use knowledge, practices, land use policies, and flood plain regulations/ laws public awareness-raising, training and education etc., e.g. Building codes and Laws, location specific planning/strategies, forest management/restoration of mangroves, awareness campaigns etc.

4. These guidelines are issued under Section 62 of the DM Act, 2005 and shall be called 'Tamil Nadu State Disaster Mitigation Fund' (SDMF) guidelines and will be operative from the financial year 2021-22 to 2025-26, and will continue till further orders.

5. Technical Guidelines:

For the guidance of the State Governments, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) will issue technical guidelines separately, within the broad framework of these guidelines and with the concurrence of MHA. Further, Hazard specific mitigation guidelines and detailed procedures for project execution will continue to be issued by NDMA from time to time in consultation with MHA.

The TNSDMA will lay down technical guidelines to be followed by the departments of the Government of Tamil Nadu as per the provisions of the Item (d) of Para 18 of DM ACT for the purposes of integration of measures for prevention of disasters and mitigation in their development plans and projects and provide necessary technical assistance therefor; This will be in line with NDMA Guidelines and contextualized to address the multiple Hazards and Vulnerability levels of the State.

6. Long Term Mitigation Strategy:

At the state level, the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority (TNSDMA) will conduct the risk assessment, which presents an assessment of hazards, exposure and vulnerability and their likely impacts. Based on the risk assessment, the TNSDMA will prepare long-term mitigation strategy for the State.

7. State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF):

7.1 SDMF will be constituted with the nomenclature of "State Disaster Mitigation Fund" in the Public Account under the Reserve Fund bearing interest in the Major Head: 8121-General and other Reserve Funds-130-State Disaster Mitigation Fund' in the accounts of the State Governments concerned after fulfilling all codal and other accounting formalities required.

7.2 The closing balance as on 31.03.2021 in the SDMF shall become the opening balance for 2021-22. Unless otherwise provided, closing balance of each financial year would be the opening balance for the next financial year till 2025-26.

7.3 The Government of Tamil Nadu shall invest SDMF as per the provisions of para-12 of these guidelines. The State Government shall pay interest into the SDMF at the rate applicable to overdrafts under Overdraft

Regulation Guidelines of the RBI for the amount not invested from SDMF. The interest will be credited on a half-yearly basis.

7.4 SDMF will be operated by the State Executive Committee (SEC) in consultation with the TNSDMA with an objective to release Grants- in- aid for mitigation projects in the State.

7.5 SDMF will be applied by SDMA for appraisal, monitoring and supervision of the mitigation projects.

8. Contribution/Allocation to the SDMF :

8.1. The 15th Finance Commission (XV-FC) has recommended Rs.32,031 crore [20%of State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) of Rs.1,60,153 crore] for SDMF of States for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. The allocation earmarked for Tamil Nadu is as per table below:

Year	State-Share	Central-Share	Total
2021-22	68.00	204.00	272.00
2022-23	71.40	214.20	285.60
2023-24	75.00	225.00	300.00
2024-25	78.80	236.20	315.00
2025-26	82.60	248.00	330.60
Total	375.80	1127.40	1503.20

8.2 The Government of India will contribute 75% funds of SDMF for all State, except for the North-Eastern and Himalayan (NE & H) States, for which it will contribute 90% of the total annual allocation. The balance 25% of funds of SDMF will be contributed by the State Governments concerned, except the NE & H State, which shall contribute 10%.

8.3 The Government of India shall pay its share as Grants-in-aid to the State under the Major Head "3601-Grants-in-aid to State Governments-07 Finance Commission Grants-105 "General (Relief on Account of Natural Calamities)-Disaster Mitigation". The State Government shall take these as receipts in their budget and account under the Major Head "1601-Grants-in-aid from Central Government-07 Finance Commission Grants-105 "Grants in aid for State Disaster Mitigation Fund".

8.4 In order to enable transfer of the total amount of contribution to the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) (both Central share and the State share of contribution), the State Government would make suitable budget

provision on the expenditure side of their budget under the Head "2245- Relief on Account of Natural Calamities-08-State Disaster Mitigation Fund-797-Transfers to Reserve Fund and Deposit Accounts",

8.5 Immediately upon the receipt of GOI's share as per para-8.3 above, the State would transfer the amount, along with their share, if not already transferred, to the Public Accounts Head within 15 days of its receipt. Any delay will require the State Government to release the amount, with interest, at Bank rate of RBI, for the number of days of delay. The State Government is required to endorse the copy of the release order to the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Home Affairs.

8.6 In order to have the real time information about availability of SDMF and NDMF fund with the State Government, the Ministry of Home Affairs has evolved a web-based online application, i.e. National Disaster management Information System (NDMIS). The State Government will provide online data of expenditure incurred from SDMF (including additional central assistance from NDMF) in line with the GOI's approved norms, on a real time basis. This is also in line with recommendation of XV-FC in para-8.112 of their Report.

8.7 The Government of Tamil Nadu shall mobilize and pool funds in SDMF from various other sources viz. reconstruction bonds, contingent credit/ stand by facilities with international financial institutions, counterpart funding from Implementing Partners, crowd funding platforms and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) window etc.

As in the past, considering the urgency and demand, the State may sanction projects for mitigation from out of State Plan. Hereafter, the State Plan supported Disaster Mitigation Projects will also follow the Guidelines on Constitution and Administration of the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Mitigation Fund (TNSDMF). However the State Plan Accounts will be maintained separately. The Urban and Rural Local Bodies and Community led Mitigation Projects which satisfy the Guidelines will be encouraged to contribute as followed in Namakku Naame Thittam.

8.8 The allocation to Districts will be based on the projects proposed by the respective DDMA's and will be in the form of sanctions after approval of State Executive Committee.

9. Scope of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF):

SDMF will fund mitigation projects at the State level. It will support and fund the following types of projects:

- i. All projects relating to mitigation measures: (a) for the notified disasters by the Government of India namely cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, landslide, Lightning and Heatwave, and (b) for the 'disasters' notified by the State Government within the local context in the State, which are to be completed within the geographical jurisdiction of the State, will be funded from the SDMF.
- ii. The State Government shall use up to 10% fund of the annual allocation of the SDMF for the purpose of mitigation projects in respect of disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State as notified under SDRF guidelines.
- iii. Projects which are of State-level significance, protecting assets, ecosystems and settlements within the State.
- iv. Projects which promote practices to reduce disaster risks and its impacts.
- v. Projects which build community resilience through information and knowledge.
- vi. Projects which focus on creating safe conditions of living for people from weaker socio-economic categories, people with disabilities, and women.
- vii. Regional projects which are initiated from the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF).
- viii. Research and studies related to disaster mitigation through the small grants window.
- ix. In case of flood mitigation projects, States should undertake the following non-structural measures:

- a. Adopting Integrated Flood Management approach by considering river basin as a hydrological unit.
- b. Real Time Hydro-meteorological Data Acquisition Network coupled with Decision Support System for integrated or standalone operation of reservoir(s), as the case may be.
- c. Delineation and demarcation of flood plain zones on certain notified stretch (es) of river(s) within the State and regulation of various activities permissible therein.

10. Limitation for utilization of SDMF:

- i. 10% of the SDMF each year should be earmarked for the non-structural measures. (Components of non-structural measures in projects consisting of both the kinds of measures may be counted towards this limit).
- ii. In a year, not more than 50% of SDMF will be utilized for measures/projects to mitigate risks from a single hazard. However, this stipulation may be relaxed by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the recommendations of Sub Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC), based on the written request of the State with proper justification.
- iii. In a year up to 5% of the SDMF, funds may be earmarked for small grants window to support small proposals related to innovation, technology, community leadership, research, studies and learning. The NDMA and the SDMA will devise a mechanism to fund projects from this window.
- iv. Funds available under SDMF shall not be used for general environmental improvement or landscape beautification and for funding the existing Government programmes/ongoing schemes etc.
- v. Mitigation Fund should generally not be used for maintenance and upkeep of any structure or engineering measure aimed at mitigation. This fund should be used for developing and implementing new projects. The mitigation measures that have been implemented, should be maintained through other sources of funding.

- vi. Resources under Mitigation Fund cannot be used towards the establishment expenditure such as salaries, office expenditure etc. to be incurred by the Disaster Management Authorities or other entities, except for payment of remuneration to technical staff included in the projects costs. Such payments will be as per the GFR-2017 and extant Government of India guidelines.

11. Release of Central Contribution to the SDMF:

The Central share to the SDMF shall be remitted to the State Governments in two equal installments in June and December in each financial year. Likewise, the State Governments shall also transfer their contribution to SDMF in two equal installments in June and December of the same year, provided that if Ministry of Home Affairs, upon being satisfied on the need of the State, may recommend an earlier release of the Central share of a particular year's installment. The Central share to the SDMF due in a year shall be released to the State Governments subject to fulfillment of the following conditions :-

- i. State Government shall issue a certificate that the relevant notification, establishing SDMF as per section 48(1)(c) of the DM Act, 2005 is in force.
- ii. The State Government shall furnish a certificate to MHA and to Ministry of Finance in the months of April and October every year indicating that the amount received earlier has been credited to the SDMF along with the State's share of contribution, accompanied by the statement giving the up-to-date expenditure and the balance amount available in the SDMF. This statement is to be provided in the format at Annexure-II.
- iii. Once the Finance Accounts of the previous year are available, expenditure reported for that particular year should match with expenditure figure in Major Head: 2245 and balance in SDMF in MH: 8121 . In case of any discrepancy, the figures in MH: 2245 and in MH: 8121 as reflected in the Finance Accounts will be considered. Any deviation from prescribed accounting practices in the guidelines would result in withholding of further releases until the required accounting procedure is adopted or restored.

- iv. The Central Government's contribution due in December of a year shall be released after the receipt, in MHA and in Ministry of Finance, by September of that year, of an 'Annual Report on Mitigation Projects', prepared by the State Government. This Annual Report shall, inter-alia, furnish details of expenditure incurred by the State Government on each of the mitigation project in the format to be laid down in due course.
- v. The Central Government's share shall be released by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance after receiving due recommendations from MHA.

12. Investment of SDMF:

12.1 The accretions to the SDMF together with the income earned on the investments of the SDMF shall, till contrary instructions are issued by the Central Government, be invested in one or more of the instruments such as Central Government dated Securities; Auctioned Treasury Bills; and interest earning deposits and certificates of deposits with Scheduled Commercial Banks.

12.2 The investments of the funds shall be carried out by the branch of the Reserve Bank of India (having Banking Department) at the headquarters of the State, or a Bank designated by RBI. In case of Sikkim, the functions may be carried out by the State Banker. The accounting procedure for the investment transactions and encashment of securities will be similar as available in case of SDRF.

12.3 State Executive Committee (SEC) shall ensure that SDMF shall be invested as per provisions of Para-12.1 of these guidelines. The State Government shall pay interest for the amount not invested from the SDMF, in the identified interest bearing instruments at the rate applicable to overdrafts under Overdraft Regulation Guidelines of the RBI. The interest will be credited on a half-yearly basis into the SDMF corpus.

13. Administrative mechanism to be followed for processing of proposals under SDMF.

- i. The State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) will constitute an Appraisal Committee to be headed by the Commissioner of Revenue Administration Member of State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) with members from line Departments of the State Government and State entities for appraisal of the proposals/ projects under State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF).
- ii. The Departments/ Agencies of the State Government/ DDMA, who wish to take up projects from SDMF, will submit the project proposals to the Commissioner of Revenue Administration. The Appraisal Committee headed by the Commissioner of Revenue Administration will critically examine the technical, financial, economic, environmental and social aspects of the projects and prioritize them.
- iii. The recommendations of the Appraisal Committee of SDMA shall be placed before the SEC for consideration/ sanction.

14. State Executive Committee (SEC):

- i. SEC, constituted by the State Government as per provision of section 20 of the DM Act, 2005, will decide on matters connected with the administration of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) including obtaining contributions from the Central Government, investing the accretions to the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) in accordance with the prescribed norms and approving the mitigation project from SDMF.
- ii. SEC shall ensure that the money drawn from SDMF is actually utilized for the purpose for which the SDMF has been set up.

15. Release of Funds:

Upon sanction of projects by SEC, funds will be released from SDMF for mitigation projects/ works. Procedure as in vogue in the State for the release of funds under SDRF shall apply to State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) also.

16. Unspent balance in the SDMF:

The unspent balance in the SDMF account as at the end of the financial year 2021-22 shall be the opening balance of SDMF account of the financial year 2022-23. The Central Government will communicate the modalities for handling any balances available at the end of 2025-26 in SDMF of the State.

17. Execution of Projects :

State Disaster Management Authority's (SDMA) Appraisal Committee shall supervise and monitor the approved projects during implementation and will be responsible for submitting completion certificates as well as required reports, including maintaining updated database containing information about all projects implemented with the assistance from SDMF/NDMF.

18. Accounts and Audit :

- i. The State's SDMF account should distinctly show source of receipt into funds namely:
 - a. Centre's share of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF)
 - b. State's share of State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF)
 - c. Return on investments
 - d. Redemption of investments
 - e. Contribution from reconstruction bond, CSR/ implementing partners/community etc., if any.
 - f. Penal Interest (at bank rate or overdraft rate as the case maybe)
- ii. The actual expenditure out of SDMF should be booked under respective Minor Heads within Major Head 2245.

- iii. The detailed accounts of fund and investment thereof shall be maintained by Accountant General In-charge of Accounts of the State.
- iv. The accounts of SDMF shall be audited annually by Comptroller & Auditor General. The State Government shall furnish a copy of the audit Report of CAG to Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Home Affairs.

19. Developing a Disaster Database :

TNSDMA shall develop a disaster database as a special initiative. The database should have disaster assessments, the details of allocations and expenditure and preparedness and mitigation plans. The database of the projects includes all the details related to project components, expenditure, reviews, evaluation and outcome.

20. Outcome Framework:

Projects taken up from State Disaster Mitigation Fund must have verifiable and measurable outcomes. NDMA shall develop an outcome framework to ensure a greater accountability for allocation and utilization of NDMF/SDMF resources. This framework could be based on achieving the Sendai Framework indicators which may include reducing mortality, supporting community recovery and resilience and improving the quality and substance of disaster assistance. The set of indicators may be determined by National Disaster Management Authority. This outcome framework shall be adhered by Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority.

21. Procurement of Goods and Services:

All procurements required for implementing the approved projects shall be made by the Government agencies for implementing the proposal in accordance with the latest General Financial Rules (GFR) and from GeM portal or as per Tamil Nadu tender Transparency Act 1998 and Rules there of.

22.Savings:

- i. In case of any difficulty in interpretation of any of these guidelines, the matter shall be referred to Ministry of Home Affairs, whose decision shall be final.
- ii. Ministry of Home Affairs, with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance, may amend these guidelines, in such a manner as may be required to facilitate smooth operation of immediate mitigation measures.
- iii. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is the nodal Ministry for overseeing the operation of SDMF and shall monitor compliance with the prescribed processes. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) may issue directions / instructions under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 in this regard.

**KUMAR JAYANT
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

//TRUE COPY//

Dr. D. Jayant
28.02.2022
SECTION OFFICER