

11th day of October,2025,
Nabanna,Howrah

PRESS NOTE

In continuation of the relief and restoration operations across the flood and landslide-affected districts of North Bengal, the Government of West Bengal has made notable progress in restoring normalcy. Under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, coordinated inter-departmental efforts are ongoing across all affected districts. Hon'ble Chief Minister took the updated reports from the Chief Secretary and instructed to ensure relief and restoration works to continue in full swing to bring back the normalcy. Hon'ble Chief Minister further advised to ensure that proper health, hygiene, drinking water and sanitation measures are put in place in the affected areas and in the relief shelters.

District administrations, supported by line departments are conducting continuous relief operations through gruel kitchens, temporary shelters and distribution camps providing food, drinking water and hygiene materials. House-to-house survey teams are assessing flood-damaged homes using geotagged photographs to enable transparent disbursement of house-building grants. Special outreach camps are assisting residents in reissuing lost documents through coordination with concerned authorities. Senior officers from relevant departments have been deployed in the districts to oversee field operations and ensure assistance reached all affected households.

Restoration of connectivity and critical infrastructure remains a top priority. In locations, such as Lower Godak village in Todey-Tangta GP (Kalimpong District), where landslides temporarily cut off access for nearly 70 families, immediate administrative intervention helped restore movement through emergency repairs and safety barricading. The Public Works Department has deployed senior engineers to assess and rebuild key roads and bridges, including the Teesta Bazar stretch of SH12 connecting Kalimpong and Darjeeling. Immediate interventions have restored access to isolated areas, while permanent repairs are being planned under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

The Agriculture Department is extending comprehensive support to farmers across the affected districts. On-site crop loss assessments and special enrolment camps under the Bangla Shasya Bima (BSB) scheme through APAS are underway to facilitate speedy claim settlements. Relief measures include the distribution of seeds and agricultural inputs, along with the deployment of 46 additional Sufal Bangla mobile outlets in disaster-affected districts. These have supplemented the existing 100 outlets, bringing the total number of operational outlets to 146, which are ensuring a steady and uninterrupted supply of vegetables and other essential produce to relief camps and local communities. Agricultural scientists from BCKV have been deputed to study soil degradation and recommend appropriate land restoration measures. As part of immediate relief, the department has already distributed more than 25 quintals of mustard/tori, 200 quintals of lentil, and 600 quintals of maize seeds, with a total fund involvement of approximately ₹1.23 crore.

The Animal Resources Development Department has undertaken parallel initiatives to safeguard livestock and support farmers' livelihoods. Animal feed and fungicides have been distributed, while also conducting veterinary treatment camps in the affected areas, including Molatey and Mangarjung Tea Gardens, ensuring timely health interventions and continuity of livestock-based income sources.

The relief camps have additionally provided hygiene kits for women and ensured basic facilities such as toilets, bathing areas, and solar lighting, reflecting the Government's commitment to relief with dignity and holistic welfare in the aftermath of the disaster.

While the Hon'ble Chief Minister continues to closely monitor the ongoing restoration efforts, regular review meetings are being convened by the Chief Secretary and Departmental Ministers to assess progress and coordinate relief measures across affected areas. The Government of West Bengal remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguard lives, restore livelihoods, and rebuild affected regions with compassion, urgency, and dedication. Every effort is being made to ensure that normalcy is restored at the earliest, reflecting the State's unwavering resolve to stand by its people in this hour of need.