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# Yediyurappa pegs losses due to floods at Rs 8,071 crore

## Urges Central team to revise aid amount to victims of disasters

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Monday told an inter-ministerial Central team (ICMT) that the overall losses suffered by Karnataka due to the floods in August this year was Rs 8,071 crore.

The six-member ICMT led by Ministry of Home Affairs joint secretary K V Pratap held talks with Yediyurappa

as part of its 3-day visit to assess the flood damages in the state.

Yediyurappa told the ICMT that crops on 4.03 lakh hectares of land, several schools, anganwadis, roads and bridges were damaged during floods and landslides this year.

Noting that the guidelines for relief under State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) were expected to



A file photo of vast tracts of agricultural land under water following recent floods in River Krishna in Belagavi district.

be revised this year, the CM urged the ICMT to also revise the relief amount for the benefit of victims of natural disasters.

The state government, Yediyurappa said, was providing compensation to those who lost houses in the floods with an objective to build bet-

ter houses for the victims.

A compensation of Rs 5 lakh each for houses that suffered 75% or more damage, and Rs 3 lakh and Rs 50,000 for houses that suffered partial damages had been provided, costing the state Rs 1,500 crore last year. "This year too, Karnataka will incur an addi-

tional expense of Rs 200 crore in compensating the victims," Yediyurappa said.

Though funds under SDRF were released for Covid-19 and flood relief activities, the state required additional funds to tackle the pandemic as cases are rising and provide relief to all flood victims.

More than 10 districts of the state were affected by floods this year, with Kodagu suffering landslides and flooding triggered by very heavy rainfall for the third year in a row. Heavy rainfall since August 1 has killed 20 people, displaced thousands, damaged more than 10,000 homes and wrecked 14,182 km of roads.

The ICMT will tour flood-hit regions till September 9 and submit a report to the Centre on the extent of damages.