

Insurers gearing up for 'Cyclone Fani' claims

SURABHI

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Insurers are gearing up to process claims after Cyclone Fani ravaged parts of Odisha, but many say underinsurance continues to be the bigger challenge.

"The unfortunate reality is that the uninsured losses in most natural calamities are much higher. I don't think the situation will be much different here," said

Roopam Asthana, CEO and whole-time director, Liberty General Insurance.

Most claims are expected for damage of property and vehicles and hospitalisation, and some for damage to crops.

Life insurance claims will

be less largely due to the State's improved disaster management efforts. The general insurance density in Odisha was at ₹706 in 2017-18, which was lower than that of a number of States.

Insurance

density is defined as the ratio of premium underwritten in a given year to the total population.

An executive with an insurance company, who did not wish to be

named, said insurance companies will now begin work and set up camps to process insurance claims in the State. "It is too early to quote a figure but it could be in the range of ₹2,000 crore or so," he said.



According to sources, the claims could cross ₹2,000 crore