

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1228
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2002
PANEL OF NCDM
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Delhi High Court has asked the panel of the National Committee on Disaster Management (NCDM) to finalise its draft agenda;
- (b) if so, whether NCDM, chaired by the Prime Minister has not been able to meet even once since its inception;
- (c) whether the main purpose of setting up of NCDM was to thrash out issues like establishment of an exclusive ministry for disaster management etc.;
- (d) if so, whether the directive of the High Court has been implemented by the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details of the agenda prepared?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI)

(a) to (e): The Delhi High Court have observed that they hope and trust that the draft agenda which has been prepared by the working group (of the National Committee on Disaster Management) shall be finalized within eight weeks. The Delhi High Court have further observed that after the agenda is finalized the National Committee on Disaster Management (NCDM) should bestow its consideration as expeditiously as possible. The National Committee on Disaster Management had been set up to:-

- i) Suggest short-term, medium and long-term steps for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat.
- ii) Deliberate on the necessary institutional and legislative measures needed for an effective and long-term strategy to deal with national calamities in the future.
- iii) Look into the parameters that should define a National Calamity.

The National Committee on Disaster Management, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister, had met on 18th February, 2001. In this meeting it was inter alia decided that in so far as the long-term strategy for dealing with major natural calamities in future is concerned, a working group would go into these issues. After holding several meetings, the Working Group has prepared a draft agenda note for the meeting of the National Committee on Disaster Management and this has been circulated to all members of the National Committee on Disaster Management for their suggestions and comments.