

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1008

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a separate force to effectively tackle natural disasters in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State and District level disaster management plans are in place for implementation in times of disasters;
- (d) if so, whether the concerned civic and emergency response agencies have been thoroughly briefed on these plans;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to conduct mock drills to test the preparedness for disaster response in the metro cities as held in Delhi recently; and
- (g) if so, the details of such drills that have been conducted so far and the findings thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (b): Government of India has already constituted National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) under Section 44 of the DM Act, 2005 by up-gradation/ conversion of standard battalions of Central Armed Police Force, as a specialist force to deal with the disaster or threatening disaster situation.

A total of 10 battalions of NDRF have been raised, out of which 04 battalions have been trained to deal with Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) calamities besides natural calamities. Based on vulnerability profile of different regions of the country, these specialist battalions have been presently stationed at the various strategic locations all over the country viz. Guwahati (Assam), Kolkata (West Bengal), Mundali (Odisha), Arrakonam (Tamil Nadu), Pune (Maharashtra), Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat), Bhatinda (Punjab), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh), Bihta, Patna (Bihar) and Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh).

(c) to (e): Sections 23 and 31 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 provides that State Disaster Management Plan for every State and District Disaster Management Plan for every District shall be prepared by State Executive Committee and District Disaster Management Authority respectively and shall be approved by State Disaster Management Authority. The State Disaster Management Plan is required to prepare in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The guideline for preparation of State Disaster Management Plans has been issued by NDMA on July 2007 and till date 14 States have prepared draft State Disaster Management Plans.

(f) & (g): NDMA undertakes mock exercises in vulnerable Districts and industries on various types of natural and man-made disasters to help the State Governments and District administration in reviewing the adequacy and efficacy of the State and District level Disaster Management Plans and to identify gaps in resources and systems. It is mentioned that this was for the first time that a mega mock drill was conducted in Delhi and it contemplates to undertake similar such mock drills in other vulnerable States.

The details of mock drills carried out by NDMA for the period 2006- March 2012 are as given below :

S No	Details	Nos.
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a)	Mock exercises conducted in States/UTs.	231
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b)	Mock exercises conducted in schools/colleges.	96
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c)	States/UTs covered.	35
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d)	Districts covered.	127
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e) First responder trained. 8.5 lakh approx.

f) Community sensitized. 16.5 lakh approx.