

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6235  
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012  
DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there was lack of direction/ coordination amongst the various agencies involved in disaster management in the coastal areas of the country during the recent Tsunami in the Indonesian sea;
- (b) if so, whether the disaster management teams were not in place in many districts of the coastal areas;
- (c) if so, whether there was a failure on the part of the administration to activate the disaster management plan; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to lessen the response time in case of disaster and the details of preparedness in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): No Madam, there was no lack of direction/ coordination amongst the various agencies involved in disaster management in the coastal areas in the country during recent earthquake of 11th April 2012 followed by Tsunami threat in the Indonesian sea.

A threat assessment about Tsunami was made by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad based on the earthquake information and pre-run model for the State/ UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Accordingly, regular advisories were issued by this Ministry to the States/ UTs concerned to take appropriate precautionary measures and to keep close watch and monitor the situation in their areas.

Government of India took immediate steps by keeping in readiness 6 teams (233 personnel) of NDRF at Hindon Airport and 6 teams (180 personnel) of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) at Chennai Airport along with necessary equipments for deployment to the areas under Tsunami threat. The teams in other battalions of NDRF were also kept on high alert.

Similarly, all the coastal States/ UTs governments activated their respective incident response teams and emergency operation centers and kept close watch on the progress of the incident. Information from the field was collected & analysed from time to time and the situation was monitored at the highest administrative level by Chief Secretaries of States/ UTs.

As such there was no failure on the part of the administration to activate the disaster management plan in the coastal areas in the country.