

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2127
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
PREPAREDNESS OF NDMA
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is adequately equipped to deal with natural calamities across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of meetings of NDMA held during the last three years and the details of the decisions taken in the meetings; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the NDMA?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (b): As per Disaster Management Act, 2005, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has the responsibility for laying down policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management for ensuring timely and effective response to disaster. Further, as per the DM Act, 2005, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has been raised for the purpose of specialized response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster, with its general superintendence, direction and control vested in NDMA.

(c) to (d) : As per Section 4 of the Disaster Management Act, the National Authority shall meet as and when necessary and at such time and place as the Chairperson of the National Authority may think fit. In the last three years, NDMA met once on 28.10.2013.

The Government has recently reconstituted NDMA with experts in various fields of Disaster Management, as its Members, for smooth functioning of the National Authority. A decision was also taken on the status of members of NDMA, with a view to make NDMA functionally and structurally more responsive to the needs of the stakeholders. In order to strengthen the institutional memory of the organisation, a decision was also taken to designate the present Secretary of NDMA as its Member Secretary.