The National Centre for Seismology (NCS)/ Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) maintains a National Seismological Network to monitor earthquake activity in and around the country.

(c) As per Section 36 of the Disaster Management Act, every Ministry of the Central Government is required to take necessary measures for disaster management including disaster preparedness. Some of the major measures taken by this Ministry and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for improving disaster preparedness are:

(i) Release of National Disaster Management Plan in 2016.

(ii) Publication of 25 guidelines on different disasters by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) including guidelines on management of Earthquakes and Tsunamis.

(iii) Setting up of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for prompt response and pre-positioning of NDRF in disaster vulnerable areas and pre-position them across various vulnerable locations in the country.

(iv) Encouraging States to set-up their own State Disaster Response Forces.

(v) Strengthening of State and District Disaster Management systems through various schemes of central government.

(vi) Construction of multi-purpose cyclone shelters and training of coastal communities on shelters during 2011-2020.

(vii) Conducting mock drills and workshops for effectively responding to disasters.

(viii) Carrying out capacity building of disaster professionals and communities by NOMA, NDRF and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM).

(ix) Organizing Annual Conference of Relief Commissioners and Secretaries of the Department of Disaster Management of States and Union Territories to review their status of preparedness for dealing with any natural disasters.

Provisions of Article 244A in Assam

1810. SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) why are the provisions of Article 244A of Constitution of India not applied in the State of Assam despite demands for the same from the tribal people of Assam; and

(b) whether it is not a violation of the Constitution as the provisions of Article 244A are not applied anywhere in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) and (b) The Constitution (22nd Amendment) Act, 1969 was enacted to bring into effect the decision to constitute an Autonomous State within the State of Assam comprising the Autonomous Districts of Garo, Khasi and Jaintia Hills. This Amendment Act inserted a new Article 244 A into the Constitution providing that Parliament may, by law, form within the State of Assam an Autonomous State comprising all or any of the tribal areas specified in Part A of the table appended to Paragraph 20 of the Sixth Schedule. Government of Assam which is directly affected by this Article 244 A has been demanding its repeal and is not in favour of any further division of the State.

Extension of Sixth Schedule to tribal areas of Manipur

1811. SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission to Review the Constitution under the Chairmanship of Justice M. Venkatachaliah had recommended for extension of Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India to the tribal areas of Manipur;

(b) whether Government had assured to extend Sixth Schedule to tribal areas of Manipur in the past;

(c) if so, whether Government intends to implement these recommendation) and assurances; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the timeline and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, set up under the Chairmanship of Justice M. Venkatachaliah submitted its report on 31st March, 2002 recommended that the provisions of the Sixth Schedule should be extended to hill districts of the State of Manipur. Prior to this recommendation, Government of Manipur in the year 2001, had conveyed its no objection to the extension of Sixth Schedule of the Constitution in the Tribal areas, in the hill district of Manipur with certain "local adjustments and amendments". The Government of Manipur, thereafter, has been asked to send details of local adjustments and amendments from time to time.