GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1798

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 04TH AUGUST, 2021/ SRAVANA 13, 1943 (SAKA)

DISASTER MANAGEMENT FOR UTTRAKHAND

1798 #. SHRI ANIL BALUNI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any all time mechanism is under consideration for management of disaster of all the three seasons i.e. floods, landslides and cloudburst during monsoon and severe snowfall during winter and forest fires which is common in summer season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to increase the deployment of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in Uttarakhand in view of the natural calamities taking place every now and then in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) and (b): India with its continuous efforts has significantly improved its preparedness to deal with natural calamities. The Disaster Management Act 2005 articulates the need for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction (DRR) into development planning. The National Policy and National Plan on Disaster Management seeks to build a safe and disaster resilient India.

There are institutional mechanisms at the National, State & District level in the country viz. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) & District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) respectively to develop appropriate preparedness, coordination and prompt response mechanisms for effective management of natural disasters.

Central Government has established a robust early warning system and has significantly enhanced the accuracy of weather forecasts. Forecasting agencies are vigorously continuing their efforts for the improvement of warning and dissemination systems. Mock exercises and community awareness programmes are being regularly conducted to educate people at the time of natural calamities.

Although, primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments, Central Government extends all possible logistics and financial support to the States to supplement their efforts to respond to the situation effectively. Further, strengthening of the disaster management is a continuing and evolving process of governance.

In case of disaster of high magnitude, where response of various Ministries of Central Government is required, National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) headed by Cabinet Secretary coordinates preparedness & response measures with the concerned Central agencies and State Governments.

(c) and (d): Keeping in view the vulnerability profile of the State of Uttarakhand and to reduce response time, recently 01 new Bn of NDRF has been raised for deployment in Uttarakhand.
