

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2309**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD MARCH, 2022/ CHAITRA 2, 1944 (SAKA)

COMMON ALERTING PROTOCOL

2309# SHRI RAMBHAI HARJIBHAI MOKARIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to deal with disasters in the country;**
- (b) the efforts made by Government for the coordination of action being taken during cyclones taking place during year 2021 and details thereof; and**
- (c) whether Government has accorded an approval to a Common Alerting Protocol for various alert agencies, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The primary responsibility of disaster management rests with the State Government concerned. The Central Government, wherever required, supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic and financial support in cases of natural disasters of severe nature.

There are well established institutional mechanisms at the National, State & District levels in the country for appropriate preparedness and prompt response measures for effective management of natural disasters.

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 provides for the integration of measures for the prevention of disasters and mitigation into the development plans and projects, in accordance with the guidelines of the National Disaster Management

Authority (NDMA). The NDMA had prepared the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) in 2016 and further revised it in 2019. NDMA has also issued 33 guidelines for management of various disasters on various cross-cutting issues.

National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has 16 Battalions, located as per vulnerability profile of the country to provide immediate response during disasters or impending disaster situations. NDRF regularly conducts mock drills / exercises and organizes annual conference of State Disaster Response Forces (SDRF) and other stakeholders to improve the response capabilities. State-of-art NDRF Academy at Nagpur is also established to provide specialized training in disaster response to NDRF personnel and other stakeholders including SDRF.

Ministry of Home Affairs organizes annual conference of Relief Commissioners and Secretaries of the Department of Disaster Management of States and Union Territories (UTs) and of the Central Ministries and agencies concerned, to review the status of preparedness before South-West Monsoon. Ministry of Home Affairs Control Room also keep a close watch on the situation.

Government has approved Pan-India implementation of Aapda Mitra Scheme to train and equip one lakh able-bodied volunteers in disaster response. Mock exercises and community awareness programmes are being regularly conducted by NDMA and NDRF to create awareness among people.

India Metrological Department (IMD) issues regular and precise weather forecasts & warning bulletins including for cyclones to all the affected/ likely affected States/ UTs.

Multi-purpose cyclone shelters and early warning systems created in the Coastal States under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) have proved to be of great help during recent cyclones.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has recommended fund allocation of Rs. 1,60,153 crore to the States under State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. An allocation of Rs. 68,463 crore is also made under National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF) at national level for the period.

During the year 2021, the cyclones like YAAS, TAUKTAE, JAWAD and GULAB hit the coastal States / UTs in our country. During these cyclones, in order to review the preparedness and for better coordination of rescue and relief efforts, review meetings were held at the level of Hon'ble Prime Minister and also at the level of Hon'ble Union Home Minister. In addition, series of coordination meetings of National Crisis Management Committee (NCCM) were also held by Cabinet Secretary with Senior officers of Central Ministries / Agencies and States / UTs concerned in the wake of these cyclones.

To assist the State/UT administrations, adequate number of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams were deployed i.e. 113 teams in YAAS, 71 teams in TAUKTAE, 52 teams in JAWAD and 18 teams in GULAB. The NDRF teams assisted the State / UT administrations in evacuation of affected persons, distribution of relief materials and in restoration activities.

The Government with its continuous efforts has significantly improved disaster management practices, preparedness, prevention and response mechanism resulting in substantial reduction in the loss of human lives during natural calamities including cyclones, in the country.

(c): Government has approved Pan-India implementation of 'Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based Integrated Alert System' for integration of all alerting agencies [India Meteorological Department (IMD), Central Water Commission (CWC), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Defence Geo-informatics Research Establishment (DGRE), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Forest Survey of India (FSI)]. CAP is a centralized web-based platform which will modernize the disaster alerting mechanism of the country, using the information and communication technology and enhance the last mile connectivity.
