

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*367**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2022/ CHAITRA 16, 1944 (SAKA)**

**ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF NDMA**

**367 SHRI ANIL DESAI:**

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

- (a) the role and significance of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in disaster management;**
- (b) the fund allocation for establishment and management of NDMA;**
- (c) whether all the States are affiliated and contributing in this project; and**
- (d) the role played by NDMA in recent natural calamities during last two years?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 367 FOR ANSWER ON 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2022**

**(a): The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), established under the Disaster Management Act of 2005 (DM Act of 2005), and chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister, has the responsibility for laying down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management for ensuring timely and effective response to disasters in the country.**

**Besides approving the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP), the Authority approves the plans of different Ministries and Departments of Government of India, and lays down guidelines to be followed by State Disaster Management Authorities for preparing their disaster management plans. NDMA coordinates the implementation of disaster management policy and plan.**

**(b): Details of fund allocated to NDMA on the establishment and disaster management schemes, during the year 2021-22, is as under:**

**Budget Estimate: ₹ 448.31 crore**

**Revised Estimate: ₹ 264.60 crore**

**(c): NDMA is not a project. It is an Authority set up under the provisions of the DM Act of 2005. The DM Act of 2005 also provides for the establishment of State Disaster Management Authority in each State and District Disaster Management Authority in each district.**

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

**NDMA has undertaken various tasks/initiatives including laying down policy and various guidelines on cross cutting issues on disaster management. A note on key activities of NDMA during the last two years is given in the Annexure.**

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**Key Activities of NDMA during last two years**

- **COVID-19 response:** Powers and functions of NDMA under the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005 were used for the management of COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in the implementation of COVID-19 appropriate behavior, COVID-19 appropriate restrictions in movement of people and goods, and other non-pharmacological interventions. NDMA also provided information management, documentation and policy support for COVID-19 management.
- **Cyclone:** NDMA is implementing the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) in eight coastal States in two phases. NCRMP has four Main Components; i) Early Warning Dissemination System; ii) Cyclone Risk Mitigation Infrastructure; iii) Technical Assistance for Multi-hazard Risk Management; and iv) Project Management and Implementation support. Andhra Pradesh & Odisha were covered under Phase-I, which got completed in December, 2018. Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra & West Bengal are covered under Phase-II. The infrastructure built under the NCRMP were used for protecting people during the cyclonic events of 2020 and 2021.
- **Thunderstorm & Lightning:** NDMA released guidelines for preparation of Action Plan – Prevention and Management of Thunderstorm & Lightning, Squall, Dust, Hailstorm and Strong Winds. NDMA also developed a protocol for early warning dissemination on Thunderstorm and Lightning. In addition, advisories and Do's and Don'ts on Thunderstorm and Lightning were issued to all States / UTs from time to time.
- **Cold Wave:** NDMA has prepared the “National Guidelines for preparation of Action Plan – Prevention and Management of Cold Wave and Frost” and shared it with all stakeholders and particularly the Cold wave prone States / UTs. NDMA issued specific advisory, Do's and Don'ts to all States/ UTs concerned to undertake preparedness & mitigation measures on cold wave.

- **Heat Wave:** NDMA issued the guidelines for 'Preparation of Action Plan – Prevention and Management of Heat-Wave' in April, 2016, and further revised it in 2019, for facilitating the States prone to heat waves, in preparing their Heat Action Plans. Since 2017, NDMA has held Heat Wave preparedness workshop with all the heat wave prone states. In 2021 and early 2022, because of COVID-19, these were held in virtual format. NDMA has also supported in-depth research on heat wave related issues. As a result of these measures, there has been a significant reduction in loss of life due to heat wave.
- **Floods and Urban Flooding:** Besides issuing separate guidelines on the floods and urban floods, NDMA has been engaging with the States in improving their flood preparedness. For Urban Floods, NDMA has started a special project for the city of Guwahati on establishing an urban flood early warning system, which may be replicated in other cities. Every year, prior to the flood season, NDMA issues advisories to States on flood preparedness measures.
- **Earthquake:** There have been no major earthquakes in the last two years that have resulted in the loss of lives or property. However, as part of its responsibility, the NDMA has taken measures to mitigate earthquake disaster and improve ability to cope with them: a) Home Owner's guide for Earthquake & Cyclone safety (2019), provides details for those who are constructing a house and who are buying a flat multi-storey buildings, which are made of either masonry or reinforced concrete (RC); b) A Primer on Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) Consolidating Earthquake Safety Assessment Efforts in India (2020); and c) Earthquake Disaster Risk Indexing of 50 towns and 1 District (2019), provide a quantitative feel of the impending risk involved, and its consequences, and guide government agencies for prioritizing earthquake risk reduction measures.
- **Aapada Mitra:** NDMA implemented the Pilot Scheme of Aapda Mitra covering 30 districts of 25 States and trained 5513 volunteers in disaster response (flood) with the basic skills so that they can respond to their community's immediate needs in the aftermath of a disaster and to undertake basic relief and rescue tasks. The Government has accorded approval to up scale the Aapda Mitra Scheme to pan India in 350 disaster prone districts to train, equip and insure 1,00,000 able bodied community volunteers in multi-hazard response.

- **Common Alerting Protocol:** NDMA, in collaboration with the Department of Telecommunication and Centre for Development of Telematics is developing a Common Alert Protocol solution through which disaster management messages can be disseminated to the public through multiple media including by sending mass messages to all mobile subscribers in a selected geographical area and those on roaming.
- **Emergency Response Support System (ERSS):** NDMA is also implementing ERSS for disasters, which is a Pan-India single number (112) based emergency response system for citizens in emergencies. Citizens can request help through Voice Call, SOS, SMS, Email, Web Request and Panic buttons on a mobile app to request for immediate assistance pertaining to events related to Police assistance, Fire, Ambulance, Women protection, Child safety. This will now also include disaster related assistance.
- **Mock Exercises:** In order to improve the preparedness of States and districts, NDMA regularly conducts mock exercises. During the last two years, due to COVID-19, these have been done in a virtual format. NDMA designed a half day capsule for the conduct of online Response Training and Table Top Exercise (Online TTEx) for States / UTs in June, 2020. Since then NDMA has been conducting these exercises regularly.
- **International cooperation:** With the efforts of NDMA, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) was approved in the Cabinet decision in August 2019 and officially launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York on 23 September 2019. At present, 30 countries and 7 multi-lateral organizations have joined CDRI, by endorsing its charter.

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