

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to take steps to improve disaster assessment mechanism in the country.

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI (ANAKAPALLE): Respected Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this House how primitive our procedure for the assessment of a disaster situation is.

Firstly, the time taken to constitute a disaster assessment team and to deploy it to a site after a disaster has struck is lengthy, often taking several weeks after a disaster has struck. It takes even more time for the team to be constituted, a plan to be developed and logistics to be arranged for these teams to assess the site of a disaster. The methods of assessment are also primitive and are done manually as opposed to being mechanized and digitized. After a few weeks pass from the occurrence of a natural disaster, important information regarding the intensity of the disaster is lost and the severity is underplayed due to ineffective assessment modules. The requisite assistance is not provided. Particularly for coastal States like my State, natural disasters such as floods and cyclones keep coming due to our geography.

Through you, Sir, I request the Minister of Home Affairs to improve our disaster assessment mechanism so that the States are supported in the correct way during their time of need.