

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1268
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
CRISIS MANAGEMENT GROUP
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Crisis Management Group set up after Gujarat Earthquake recommended a long-term approach and the formation of a Rs. 500 crore corpus to deal with natural and man-made disasters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the high powered group in its report during October 2001 recommended for preparedness of projects and financial support to deal with different disasters;
- (c) if so, action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government have identified disaster prone districts/areas in the country and also undertake a community preparedness projects with UNDP;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether Cyclone and earthquake mitigation projects have not been undertaken so far;
- (h) if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (i) the action taken so far to form two special battalion and trained them in the post-disaster relief?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND)

(a) to (d): The High Powered Committee (HPC), constituted by the Government in August, 1999, submitted its report in October, 2001. The Committee, inter alia, recommended constitution of a National Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Preparedness Fund with an initial corpus of Rs. 500 crores. A National Committee on Disaster Management was set up in February, 2001 after the Gujarat earthquake and the HPC was converted into a Working Group to assist the National Committee. The Working Group submitted its report to the Prime Minister on 4th June, 2003. The recommendations made by HPC/Working Group relate to Constitutional and legal framework, organizational structure, institutional mechanisms, preparedness, quick response, prevention and mitigation including formulation of a disaster mitigation strategy and its integration with development plans. In the meantime, the government have already taken several initiatives recommended by HPC. These initiatives include preparation of a National Disaster Management Framework covering institutional structures, disaster prevention and mitigation strategy, early warning systems, preparedness and human resource development; training capsules for inclusion in the post recruitment induction training of All India Services and Central Para-Military Forces; development of specialized search and rescue teams, disaster management and response plans etc.

(e) & (f): The Disaster Risk Management Programme being implemented with UNDP assistance aims at community based disaster preparedness and risk reduction including disaster prevention and building up capabilities for response and recovery in 169 multi-hazard prone districts in 17 States over a period of five years.

(g) & (h): An Earthquake Mitigation Project and a Cyclone Mitigation Project have been formulated and referred to the Planning Commission for approval.

(i): Training of trainers for the specialized battalions has been conducted. The training of battalions has commenced recently.