

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:363
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2006
DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE
Athithan Shri Dhanuskodi

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has advised all the State Governments to set up their own Disaster Response Forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof?
- (c) the reaction of the State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) the details with regard to the funds to be allocated to each State Government for the setting up of this force along with the share to be contributed by the respective State Government to this fund?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

- (a) & (b): The Government of India have advised all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to form their own Search & Rescue teams to enable them to respond more effectively to disaster situations. For this purpose the States/Union Territories have been requested to
- (i) select at least 12 trainers
 - (ii) identify one State level nodal training institute
 - (iii) procure necessary equipment for training of trainers (ToTs)
 - (iv) identify officials/officers for the training in Medical First Responder (MFR) & Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR) and
 - (v) procure equipment for State level Search and Rescue Teams.
- (c) The advice given by the Government of India to the States/UTs for the setting up their own Search and Rescue teams is being implemented by the States/UTs. 24 States have already selected trainers as well as identified State/UT level nodal Training Institutes.
- (d) At the National level 8 battalions of Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) have been constituted as National Disaster Response Force by the Government of India for specialist response to any disaster situation, in the country.

No share of Centre and States has been fixed for formation of State level Search and Rescue teams and these Teams are required to be set up by the State/UT Governments from their own budget. However, the Government of India have permitted the State Governments to utilize 10% of the annual allocation of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for procurement of essential search, rescue and evacuation equipment including communication equipment.