

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4769
ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006
TRAINING TO TACKLE DISASTERS
Ramadass Prof. M

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of Grants-in-Aid provided to various institutes/universities so far for organizing training programmes for disaster;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up an Institute of Disaster Management at Port Blair;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard;
- (d) the measures taken to promote awareness regarding vulnerabilities of disasters;
- (e) the measures taken to ensure seismic safety of buildings in the event of disaster;
- (f) whether the Government has taken steps to establish mobile hospitals to facilitate quick access of medical assistance near the disaster site; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) : An amount of Rs. 16.09 crore has been released as grants-in-aid to various institutes during the period from 2002-03 to 2005-06 for organizing training programmes for disaster management.

(b) & (c): There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(d): The Government has taken steps to enhance awareness regarding vulnerability to earthquake, cyclone and floods. Publicity campaign has been taken up through All India Radio & Doordarshan. Advertisements on the vulnerability to earthquake, cyclone and floods and precautionary/preventive measures to reduce the risk of damage/injury etc. were also carried out through DAVP in the

L.S.U.S.Q.NO.4769 FOR 23.5.2006

newspapers published in the States/areas prone to such risk. Awareness generation and capacity building for disaster risk reduction are also a part of the Disaster Risk Management Programme taken up by the government, which inter-alia has a special component relating to urban earthquake vulnerability reduction covering 38 cities falling in seismic zones III, IV & V and having a population of more than five lakh.

(e): The measures taken to ensure seismic safety of buildings includes: publication of Codes and guidelines on safety of buildings and structures under earthquake; development and dissemination of model building bye-laws providing inter alia for adherence to seismic safety norms specified in the National Building Code and other standards; organization of training programmes in the design and construction of earthquake resistant buildings for serving and practicing engineers and architects; development and dissemination of guidelines for Repaired Visual assessment of the seismic safety of masonry and reinforced concrete buildings as well as for retrofitting of brick/stone masonry buildings.

(f) & (g): The Government has decided to establish three mobile hospitals as part of the measures initiated for building up specialized capabilities for rapid intervention in case of disasters. These fully containerized mobile hospitals would be capable of being flown to the site of a disaster in time of need. Each mobile hospital will be strategically located and will be attached to a major hospital, which will be known as its mother hospital. The mother hospital and other identified hospitals in the country will provide doctors, nurses, para-medics and other supporting and administrative staff for the mobile hospitals.