

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2656
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2007
EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS PLAN
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has adopted a plan to spread earthquake awareness through school children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the aims and objectives of the plan; and
- (d) the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) – (c) Not really Sir. However, all state, regional and central offices of India Meteorological Department (IMD) organize a regular 1-week programme for spreading awareness to school children that includes earthquake awareness as well apart from other natural hazards like cyclone, flood and drought coinciding with the National Science Day (28th February) and World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Day – 23rd March. On both the occasions, exhibitions, lectures, visits to observatories etc. are exclusively organized for local school children.

Under Seismicity Programme of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), 5 pilot projects are funded for creating earthquake awareness in general and 2 projects specifically for school children.

(d) Earthquake Management Guidelines issued by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has suggested State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to organize awareness programmes for specific target groups of stakeholders including school children on various aspects of earthquakes and appropriate response systems involving conduction of mock drills in schools along with a development of specific earthquake safety plans.