

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 838**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH DECEMBER, 2022/ AGRAHAYANA 23, 1944
(SAKA)**

TIME TAKEN FOR CONSTITUTION OF DISASTER ASSESSMENT TEAMS

838 SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days taken to constitute a disaster assessment team and deploy it to the site after a disaster has struck, details for the last three years;

(b) whether it takes considerable time for disaster assessment teams to be constituted, plan and arrange logistics for these teams to assess the site of a disaster after it has struck, if so, what measures Government is undertaking to redress this; and

(c) the sites of disaster and the number of days disaster management team spent assessing the site, including exact area of the site, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (c): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management, the primary responsibility for disaster management, including disbursement of relief to the affected people on the ground level, rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters including flood from the State

Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with the Government of India's approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure in case of disaster of 'severe nature', which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).

Under the existing practice in vogue prior to 19.08.2019, IMCT used to be deputed after the receipt of Memorandum from the State Government affected by a severe disaster. This Ministry had taken a significant decision on 19.08.2019 to depute IMCT immediately in the aftermath of any natural calamity of severe nature, without waiting for the receipt of memorandum from the State Government, which will visit the affected areas of States so as to have the first hand assessment of the damages caused and the relief work carried out by State Administration. If required, the IMCT will again visit the state after submission of the Memorandum for detailed assessment of the damages and relief operations conducted.

Reform has been initiated on the basis of the experience that there is a considerable time gap between the disaster event, submission of memorandum by the State Government and visit of IMCT. In such a

situation, IMCT may not be able to have the realistic assessment of damages. As a result of this decision, IMCTs are now sent immediately after occurrence of the event.

The visit is undertaken by the IMCT in consultation with the State Government authorities and depends upon the readiness of the State Government for the same. The arrangement and logistics for site visit of IMCT is arranged by the State Government concerned.

The time spent by IMCT in the State, varies as per situation and attempts to cover the affected areas to a large extent.
