

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

**RAJYASABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3569
TO BE ANSWERED ON APRIL 03, 2023**

EARTHQUAKE PROOF HOUSING IN THE COUNTRY

NO. 3569. SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether earthquake-prone areas in the country have been explored by Government, if so, details of the areas concerned, State-wise;
- (b) the reforms made by Government in last three years in the field of disaster management to deal with a disaster like an earthquake;
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to implement earthquake protection rules in building construction;
- (d) whether earthquake protection norms are being followed in construction of new buildings in metropolitan cities;
- (e) whether any campaign is being run by Government to make the general public aware of the importance of these rules; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)**

- (a) to (f) The earthquake prone areas in the country have been identified by Seismic Hazard Zoning Map of India given in the Indian Standards IS 1893 (Part 1): 2016, brought out by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), has also collated the existing hazard scenario for the entire country in the Vulnerability Atlas of India, 2019. This Atlas presents digitized district-wise Hazard Maps with respect to earthquakes for identification of vulnerable areas. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has requested States/UTs, other Ministries and organizations to incorporate provisions of the Vulnerability Atlas of India in the tender documents, quality control and assurance plans, so that disaster mitigation measures are adequately addressed.

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Housing, is a state subject, with formulation and implementation of Building Bye-laws being the responsibility of the States/UTs. Ensuring compliance of earthquake protection rules in building construction, and creating general public awareness on the importance of these rules, lies within the domain of the State Governments. Some of the steps taken by the Government for the guidance to States/UTs include:

- i. Issuance of Model Building Bye- Laws, 2016 which has a Chapter on structural safety against disasters including earthquakes.
- ii. Bureau of Indian Standards has formulated a number of Indian Standards relating interalia to safety against earthquakes.
- iii. The National Building Code of India 2016 (NBC 2016) has provisions relating to design and construction of disaster resistant buildings, which are disseminated from time to time through workshops and webinars.
- iv. BMTPC organizes thematic workshops, webinars and sessions on Vulnerability Atlas of India, disaster resistant design & construction practices for officials of State/UTs governments and other stakeholders dealing with housing and infrastructure.
