

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

**RAJYASABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3570  
TO BE ANSWERED ON APRIL03, 2023**

**EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS OF URBAN AREAS**

**NO. 3570 SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN**

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

- (a) whether Government has prepared earthquake vulnerability maps for urban cities and towns, so as to be alert of those areas that are more prone to the dangers of an earthquake;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Smart Cities Mission, has devised an urban policy for earthquake preparedness and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps Government is taking to increase the earthquake preparedness of urban areas?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b) Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), has 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, winds and floods for identification of vulnerable areas. The earthquake prone areas in the country have also been identified in the 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). 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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- (c) Smart Cities Mission has addressed issues related to sustainable development, climate change, disaster preparedness, mitigation and adaptation in the Smart City proposals of 100 selected Smart Cities.
- (d) Housing is a State subject with formulation and implementation of building bye-laws being the responsibility of States/UTs. Some of the steps taken by the Government for guidance of 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 inter alia 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.

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