

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2371
(ANSWERED ON 12.03.2026)

STRENGTHENING DISASTER MANAGEMENT

2371. SHRI SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific objectives of tripartite MoU signed between NDMA, AcSIR and CSIR–NIScPR for strengthening disaster management policy research;
- (b) whether there are any plans to develop dedicated digital platform or national outreach programme to bridge the gap between scientific inquiry and public disaster preparedness;
- (c) whether the curriculum would be aligned with Prime Minister’s Nine-Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction to bridge the gap between scientific research and field-level policy application; and
- (d) the details of specific training or capacity-building initiatives planned for policy professionals to better utilise evidence-based research in decision making?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) The tripartite MoU between the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR–NIScPR), and Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) aims to establish a collaborative academic and policy-support framework in Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (DMRR), including launching a PhD programme, conducting policy-relevant research, developing India-specific datasets and tools, strengthening science communication, and enhancing national capacity in disaster governance and resilience.
- (b) The MoU provides for science communication, community outreach, and explores possibilities of development of digital knowledge platforms to bridge the gap between scientific research and public disaster preparedness.
- (c) Yes. The academic curriculum will be aligned with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s Agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), particularly with respect to better involvement of academia and scientific institutions in DRR, which will be developed by a Joint Working Group to be led by NDMA.
- (d) The MoU envisages certificate courses, short-term training programmes for government officials and practitioners, expert lectures, and policy dialogues to promote evidence-based decision-making. NDMA, being the apex authority, will monitor and steer the academic, capacity building, and training activities as required for DRR under this MOU.
