GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 220

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11^{TH} DECEMBER, 2018/ AGRAHAYANA 20, 1940 (SAKA)

REPORT OF UNISDR

220. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: SHRIMATI VASANTHI M.:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the report of UN System for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), India suffered economic loss of \$80 billion during 20 years between 1998-2017;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether climate change is making development risky particularly in lower middle income countries like India;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has assessed such economic and other losses due to natural disasters during the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken or being taken by the Government to reduce economic and other losses during the natural disasters?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): The Report on Economic Losses, Poverty & Disasters 1998-2017, published by UNISDR, available online in Public Domain has reported direct economic losses of USD 79.5 billion incurred during 1998-2017.

However, no further details like break up of USD 79.5 billion is available in the report.

(c), (d) & (e): The Ministry of Environment and Forest has reported that the Government has commissioned a scientific study to assess the impact of climate change and published its report titled "Climate Change and India: 4 x 4 Assessment- A sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s". The report has assessed impact of climate change on four key sectors of Indian economy, namely Agriculture, Water, Natural Ecosystems & Biodiversity and Health in four climate sensitive regions of India, namely the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal Area and the North East region. The study projects a mixed picture for climate parameters and related impact on the relevant sectors.

In order to strengthen the existing disaster management system, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 was enacted and notified on December 26, 2005. The Act provides for institutional mechanisms for drawing up and monitoring the implementation of the disaster management plans, ensuring measures by various wings of Government for prevention, mitigating and minimize effects of calamities and for undertaking a holistic, coordinated, and prompt response to any calamity situation in the country. As per the Act, the Central Government has constituted the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) with the responsibility for laying down the policies, plans, and guidelines for disaster managements. Similarly State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) and District Disaster

Management Authorities (DDMAs) have been constituted at the State and District Level. Besides making institutional arrangements, the Govt. of India keeps aircraft, boats, specialist teams of Armed Forces, Central Para Military Forces and personnel of National Disaster Response Force and essential commodities including medical stores, restoration of critical infrastructure facilities in readiness for deployment in disaster situation where ever required. Twelve battalions of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed throughout the country specifically for rescue, relief and response during disaster. Based on vulnerability profile of different regions of the country, these specialist battalions have been presently stationed at the various strategic locations all over the country. The States have also been encouraged to develop State Disaster Response Force (SDRF). Regular mock drills are being organized by the NDRF. NDRF teams are constantly engaged in familiarization exercises (FAMAX) as also in community awareness/ preparedness programmes in far flung and inaccessible areas.

The early warning is provided by the forecasting agencies of Government of India on real time basis for the impending disasters to all the concerned stakeholders for taking appropriate precautionary measures.

For financial arrangements the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) at the State and National level

respectively have been constituted for immediate relief purpose during severe natural Calamity.

The Government of India laid down the National Policy on Disaster Management in 2009 to build a safe and disaster resilient India by developing a holistic, proactive, multi-disaster oriented and technology driven strategy through a culture of prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.

NDMA released National Disaster Management Plan in June, 2016 to provide a framework and direction to the government agencies for all phases of disaster management cycle.

NDMA has already released 26 guidelines on management of natural and man-made disasters. National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM) which covers all aspects of disaster management has also been released.

The National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP), Phase-I (Rs. 2541.60 crore) and Phase-II (Rs. 2361.35 crore), is being implemented in 08 Cyclone Prone Coastal States to upgrade cyclone forecasting, tracking and warning systems and capacity building in multi-hazard risk management; and to construct major infrastructure including multipurpose cyclone shelters and embankments.

Flood Management Programme has been launched by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of

India for flood management and river management. NDMA has also prepared roadmap for mitigation of urban floods.

National Emergency Communication Plan (Phase-II) has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 93.2262 crore to provide V-SATS for voice, data and video communication between National Operation Centre, NDRF and NDMA.

The National School Safety Programme (NSSP) has been successfully implemented by NDMA in partnership with the States/UT Governments in 8600 schools in 43 Districts spread over 22 States/UTs of the Country

NDMA started a project at an outlay of Rs. 607.40 lakh in June 2016 with the aim to strengthen community and local self government's preparedness and response in 10 most multi hazard vulnerable districts

NDMA has started a scheme "Aapda Mitra" in May 2016 which is focused on training of 6000 community volunteers in disaster response in 30 most flood prone districts of 25 States of India with total project cost of Rs. 1547.04 lakh.

The measures as taken by the Government of India and the State Governments are expected to improve the existing disaster management practices including the preparedness and minimizing the effects of disasters in the country. Further, the strengthening of the disaster management is a continuing process of the governance.
