GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 452

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20^{TH} JULY, 2021/ ASHADHA 29,1943 (SAKA)

GLACIER BLAST IN UTTRAKHAND

452. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (ALIAS) VIJAY VASANTH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the recent incident of Uttarakhand's glacier blast leading to massive floods in which a number of persons died, missing and trapped;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the losses incurred as a result thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has rushed National Disaster Response Force(NDRF) team to rescue/assist the tragedy affected State and to overcome the crisis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) On 07.02.2021 an avalanche occurred in the upper catchment of Rishiganga river, a tributary of Alaknanda river in Chamoli District of Uttarakhand, which led to sudden rise in the water level of Rishiganga River. As per the information provided by the State Government of Uttarakhand, due to this incident, 204 persons were reported missing. 80 dead bodies have been recovered so far. Due to flash flood on account of rising water level in the river Rishiganga, a small hydro project of 13.2 Mega Watt (MW) was washed away and a 520 MW under construction hydro power project in the downstream at Tapovan was also affected.

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(c) and (d) To assist the State Government in rescue and relief operation, the Central Government mobilized 05 teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) with necessary search & rescue equipments and dog squads. Besides NDRF, following resources were also mobilized by the Central Government to assist the State administration: -

a)	Indo Tibetan Border Police	450 Personnel with all
		necessary equipments along
		with Dog Squads.
b)	Sashastra Seema Bal	01 Team
c)	Indian Army	08 Teams including 01
		Engineer Task Force, 02
		Medical teams and 02 JCB
d)	Indian Navy	01 Deep Diving team
e)	Indian Air Force	05 Helicopters
f)	Defence Research	01 Team
	Development Organization	
g)	Border Road Organization	02 JCB, 01 Wheel Loader, 02
		Hydro Excavators (20T/30T)
