

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1224**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024/ SHRAVAN 8, 1946 (SAKA)**

**CRITERION FOR DECLARATION AS NATIONAL CALAMITY**

**1224 SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government has any process or criterion for declaring a disaster as national calamity;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**

**(c) whether the Government has plans to declare the Delhi floods as a national calamity; and**

**(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management, the primary responsibility for disaster management, including disbursement of relief to the affected people, rests with the State Governments/ Union Territories concerned. The scheme of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)/ National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) does not contemplate declaration of any calamity as national calamity. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters from the SDRF, already placed at**

**their disposal, in accordance with the Government of India's approved items and norms. However, the Central Government adjudges a calamity of 'severe nature' on case-to-case basis taking into account *inter-alia*, the intensity and magnitude of the calamity, level of relief assistance required, coping capacity of the State Government to tackle the problem etc.**

\*\*\*\*\*