

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*22**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND DECEMBER, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 11, 1947
(SAKA)**

DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES

***22. DR. D RAVI KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has formulated disability-inclusive disaster preparedness guidelines in line with the Sendai Framework;

(b) whether Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) have been actively involved in mock drills, training or emergency preparedness exercises conducted during the last three years; and

(c) the number of disaster shelters and emergency relief centres which have been certified as accessible under NDMA norms or audited for accessibility under the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 22 dated 2nd December, 2025

(a): National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has formulated “Guidelines on Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (2019)” in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

These guidelines align with the Sendai Framework in emphasising importance of inclusion and accessibility, by involvement of persons with disabilities and their organisations in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) policymaking and implementation.

(b): NDMA conducts annual Mock Exercises (MEs) in States based on possible catastrophic multi-hazard scenarios to operationalize and validate the 'All of Govt and Society' approach. These Mock Exercises are multi-agency events with active participation of community and stakeholders. Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), are therefore an inclusive element in these events.

During the exercise, the drills and response are evaluated to check accessibility in embedded disability scenarios: evacuation of wheelchair users, people using white canes, people who are deaf, persons with intellectual disabilities, children with special needs, and persons with psychosocial disabilities. Multi-channel early warning is also tested for

meeting the needs of PwDs in these scenarios: loudhailers, visual beacons, SMS, accessible apps, simple language, pictograms, etc. Physical and procedural accessibility is also checked during the response: ramps, handrails, signage, lighting, safe refuge areas, queues at relief points, accessible toilets, and space for carers and guide dogs.

Mock Exercise, being multi-spectral events, can only address the PwDs related issues by including a few scenarios. It is thereafter the responsibility of the State and Districts to take action on the lessons thrown up by MEs and for preparedness. NDMA being an oversight agency that guides the States, encourages them to train responders, volunteers, school staff, and community leaders on disability inclusion, communication, and safe assistance techniques before the exercise and as a follow up. The States are also asked to provide tailored preparedness training for persons with disabilities and caregivers: personal evacuation plans, go-bags including device spares/medicines, and how to communicate needs in an emergency.

(c): This Ministry does not maintain any details about number of disaster shelter and emergency relief centres which have been certified as accessible under NDMA norms or audited for accessibility under the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan).