

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2600

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015/ AGRAHAYANA 24, 1937 (SAKA)

EXERCISE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

2600. SHRI HUKUM SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited Pakistani delegation to attend a simulation exercise on disaster management in India; and

(b) if so, the details of the talks held and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Govt of India organized the first South Asian Annual Disaster Management Exercise -2015 (SAADMEX-2015) in National Capital Region (NCR) during 23-26<sup>th</sup> November, 2015, where delegates of all the SAARC countries, including Pakistan, participated. The Urban Search & Rescue operation was conducted in the exercise. As a secondary disaster due to Earthquake, a Chemical Emergency scenario was also simulated for the teams to respond to the situation and neutralize the threat.

(b): SAADMEX 2015 was followed by a SAARC Regional Workshop on 27.11.2015 to share best practices of disaster management and deliberate upon the outcomes of SAADMEX 2015. Some of the key outcomes and decisions are:

- There should be a regional mechanism and common platform for countries to share best practices;
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) which have been developed by SAARC Disaster Management Centre (SDMC) must be implemented in all SAARC countries and must be continuously monitored and evaluated as per international standards;
- Mechanisms must be designed and developed/promoted to adapt innovative best practices at National level and DRR should be seen as a key component in any planning process;
- Guidelines must be developed for accepting international assistance during emergencies;
- Integration of DRR into local plans, programmes/schemes must be carried out;
- SDMC should be strengthened to operationalize with South Asia regional response.

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