

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.271**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST DECEMBER, 2015/AGRAHAYANA 10,1937 (SAKA)

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

271. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is hosting/has hosted SAARC disaster management exercises recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether joint rescue operations and mock-drill was planned;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether man made disaster management and rescue operations are included in the said exercises; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes Madam, the GoI organized South Asian Annual Disaster Management Exercise-2015 (SAADMEx-2015) in NCR w.e.f. 23rd to 26th November, 2015.

(b): The Government of India has taken the lead to begin the process of the Exercises for Disaster Management and India organized the SAADMEx-2015 in which delegations of all SAARC member countries participated. The few important objectives of the SAADMEx-2015 are as under:-

- (i) Strengthen the effective utilization and quick deployment of Search and Rescue (SAR) Teams for Disaster Relief and Emergency Response.**

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- (ii) Effective activation of national process for regional response and operationalization of regional mechanism for collective response to disaster in the region.**
- (iii) Management of mass casualties which, among others, would involve Communication breakdown and engineering difficulties.**
- (iv) Effective and timely utilization of aid/humanitarian assistance.**
- (v) Coordination and information sharing with foreign embassies in disaster affected country.**
- (vi) Media coordination and control of information flow.**
- (vii) Special needs of vulnerable population.**
- (viii) Addressing strategic issues related to existing national and regional procedures and coordination mechanisms for large-scale disaster management. The Exercise had three components:-**
 - a. Table Top Exercise (TTx)**
 - b. Field Training Exercise (FTx)**
 - c. After Action Review (AAR)**

(c)&(d): Yes Madam, the Urban Search And Rescue Operation was planned and conducted in which all the participating member countries of SAARC took active part. 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.

(e)&(f): No Madam, the man made disaster was not included in this exercises.
