GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1607
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

HIGH RISKS OF EARTHQUAKES IN NORTH- EAST

1607. SHRI PANKAJ BORA:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any information or report on the high risks of earthquake in North-East, hilly areas and the metros like Mumbai;
(b) if so, details of report and the warnings therein; and
(c) the action taken/proposes by Government towards prevention of the earthquake therefore?

ANSWER
MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a-b) The Government is aware about seismic hazard of the whole country. The entire North East India region lies in seismic zone V. The Hilly areas of Himalayan belt is categorised in seismic zones V and IV. Mumbai is in seismic zone III.

Till date, there is no proven scientific technique available, anywhere in the world, to forecast/ predict the occurrence of earthquakes with reasonable degree of accuracy with regard to space, time and magnitude and also there is no scientific technique yet available to prevent the occurrence of earthquake.

(c) Loss of life and damage to property due to earthquakes could be considerably reduced through proper planning and implementation of pre- and post-disaster preparedness and management strategies by respective State and Central Government agencies in a coordinated manner. Guidelines have also been published by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) and Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) etc. for the design and construction of earthquake resistant structures to minimize the loss of life and damage to property caused by earthquakes. These guidelines are in wide circulation amongst the public and the administrative authorities responsible for the design and construction of earthquake resistant structures in earthquake prone areas

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