RUSH

PARLIAMENTARY MATTER

42-2/2012-NDM-I (A)
Ministry of Home Affairs
(Disaster Management Division)
A-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Khan Market, New Delhi
Dated the 27th March, 2012

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Lok Sabha Starred Question No.83 answered on 20.03.2012 regarding “Mock Drill”, raised by Shri Tarachand Bhagora, MP and Shri Sanjay Dina Patil, MP.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to say that the above Question has been answered by Home Minister in the Lok Sabha on 20.03.2012, the relevant extracts from the transcript is enclosed.

2. During the oral answer of the above mentioned Question, Shri Sanjay Dina Patil, MP has asked a supplementary Question on whether the Government has a plan to have a specific training programme conducted for the volunteers. The Home Minister while replying to the Supplementary made a statement that the has clearly requested the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) that in all future mock drills conducted anywhere in the country, they should apply the lessons of the elaborate Delhi Mock Drill and run through a programme of preparedness before the Mock Drill is conducted. He further stated that in future all Mock Drills would follow the protocol that were followed in Delhi.

3. In view of the above, NDMA is requested to prepare a template for Mock Drills in consultation with DDMA, and circulate the same for conducting future Mock Drills by NDMA. A copy of the template may also be sent to this Ministry for information and record.

As (DDMA)

(Dev Kumar)
Director (DM-I)
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Encls : As above.

To

1. Shri Sutanu Behuria, Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, NDMA Bhawan, A-1 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi [Fax: 26701820]
2. Shri Vijay Dev, Secretary (Revenue)/Divisional Commissioner, Delhi Disaster Management Authority, 5 Sham Nath Marg, New Delhi-54 [Fax: 23931269]

Copy to:

3. Parliament Section, MHA – for information and necessary action [as per the remarks of Secretary (BM) on answer to LSSQ No. 83 for 20th March, 2012(Extract enclosed)].

OS (Par cell)

PC (V)
the tsunami. They can only deal with the consequences of a tsunami. As I mentioned, we have in place a very elaborate, sophisticated Tsunami Warning System and I will be quite happy to send to the hon. Member a detailed Technical Note on the subject.

SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Madam Speaker, during a mock drill carried out, many people had little or no idea as to what was going on. When the siren sounded, there were no signs, no diagrams, no direction etc. and in such a drill conducted in Bangalore a woman was reported to have died. The volunteers do not have any specific training. Does the Government plan to have a specific training programme conducted for the volunteers?

I would also like to know as to why our schools are not included in the mock drill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, many mock drills have been conducted throughout the country. This question relates to the mock drill that was conducted in Delhi. The mock drill is preceded by a very elaborate campaign. I am certainly not saying that in each one of the mock drills conducted earlier this protocol was followed. But it was followed in Delhi. We distributed fliers, preparedness programmes were conducted, a mock drill was conducted in schools, malls, hotels, orientation and sensitization workshops were held, public lectures and awareness generation programmes were conducted. There was a preparatory mega mock drill and finally the mock drill was conducted. In fact, one of the objectives of this mock drill is to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our system. A large number of positives have been identified. At the same time, a large number of negatives have also been identified. I have clearly requested the National Disaster Management Authority that in all future mock drills conducted anywhere in the country, they should apply the lessons of the elaborate Delhi mock drill and run through a programme of preparedness before the mock drill is conducted. In fact, the preparedness stage runs for about two months before the mock drill is
conducted. In future, all mock drills will follow the protocol that was followed in Delhi.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHVAL (BRAHMA): Please note, all training exercises will follow the protocol that was followed in Delhi.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (SIKKIM): Thank you, Madam. I would like to inform this august House that on the 18th of September, there was a massive earthquake in Sikkim and the hon. Minister had also visited. At that time I had also brought to his notice that the NDRF was not acclimatized to do the kind of work which is required in the mountains.