Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah inaugurates 12th Battalion campus of NDRF in Itanagar

NDRF 12th Battalion campus will serve not only Arunachal Pradesh and Northeast but also several adjoining regions in responding to natural disasters

Training for SDRFs of all eight northeastern states will also be conducted at this campus

Central Government will extend all possible assistance for round-the-clock disaster relief operations in Northeast

NDRF will soon emerge as a leading disaster response force among all such agencies in the world

Under Modi Government, the country has moved towards early warning systems, prevention, mitigation, preparedness, disaster risk reduction and a Zero Casualty approach

With the help of science and technology, advance warnings of cyclones are now available up to seven days in advance, enabling the protection of lives and property

As soon as an alert is received through the early warning system, NDRF/SDRF personnel immediately reach out to assist people

In recent years, several cyclones have passed without claiming a single life, this is a direct outcome of our advance preparedness and effective disaster management

NDRF has conducted more than 11,000 rescue and relief operations so far, saving over 1.61 lakh lives

Between 2014 and 2026, coordinated efforts of NDRF, SDRFs and state governments have helped save lives of lakhs of citizens

Modi Govt has established a robust disaster management system by ensuring coordination among NDMA, NDRF, SDRF and State machinery

NDRF has brought pride to India by conducting disaster relief operations in several countries, including Japan, Nepal, Türkiye and Sri Lanka; 2026 declared the Year of Capacity Building for NDRF

From 2019 to 2026, Ministry of Home Affairs successfully achieved its target of planting and nurturing more than 8 crore trees

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 22 NOV 2026 6:23PM by PIB Delhi

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the campus of 12th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh. On the occasion, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu, Union Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju, Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Shri Chowna Mein, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Intelligence Bureau (IB) Director Dr. Mahesh Dikshit, NDRF Director General Shri Piyush Anand and several other dignitaries were present.



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah said that 12th Battalion of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is being officially inaugurated here. Arunachal Pradesh and the entire Northeast are among the regions most vulnerable to natural disasters. All the buildings in this campus have been constructed in accordance with earthquake-resistant standards. The first line of defence against natural disasters begins with the facilities of our 12th Battalion. This campus will serve as a centre for disaster response not only for Arunachal Pradesh and the entire Northeast but also for several neighbouring regions. Training for the State Disaster Response Forces (SDRFs) of all eight Northeastern states will also be conducted here.

Shri Amit Shah said that an Olympic-size swimming pool and a diving tank have also been constructed here for the training of personnel. This Olympic-size pool will be opened free of charge to all swimming athletes from Itanagar and across Arunachal Pradesh. He said that if any swimmer from the Northeast wins a medal at the 2036 Olympics, the journey towards that achievement will begin from this very pool, as athletes from the Northeast have consistently been at the forefront of winning medals in sports. The Ministry of Home Affairs has successfully achieved its target of planting and nurturing more than 8 crore trees during the period from 2019 to 2026. Shri Amit Shah said that every Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and the NDRF are actively engaged in the tree plantation drive. These 8 crore trees will certainly serve nature.



Union Home Minister said that the NDRF was constituted in the same year that the Disaster Management Act came into force. However, a fundamental transformation in the country's entire disaster management framework began under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Earlier, the country's overall approach towards disasters was primarily relief-oriented and reactive. Governments would reach affected areas only after a disaster had struck and engage in reconstruction and repair work after the devastation. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country has moved towards early warning systems, prevention, mitigation, preparedness, disaster risk reduction and a Zero Casualty approach. We no longer remain passive. As soon as an alert is received through the early warning system, NDRF and SDRF personnel immediately reach out to assist people and carry out

effective rescue and relief operations at the disaster site. Even before a disaster strikes, not only citizens but also their livestock are evacuated to safer locations to ensure their safety.

Shri Amit Shah said that between 2014 and 2026, the coordinated efforts of the NDRF, SDRF and all the States have helped save the lives of lakhs of citizens. A comprehensive system has been developed in which not only the NDRF and SDRF personnel, but also everyone from Patwaris to NCC cadets, Scout children and Aapda Mitras working across villages remain prepared to assist people even before a disaster strikes. This provides crucial support in rescue and relief operations. No disaster can be prevented, nor can its impact be effectively mitigated, in the absence of institutional preparedness. Since 2014, the Government of India has established a robust and coordinated system by bringing the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), NDRF, SDRF, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the State machinery together, right down to the Patwari level. This system ensures comprehensive deliberations on policies, their formulation by the Ministry of Home Affairs and their effective implementation by the NDRF, SDRF and State machinery.



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah said that NDMA has prepared response protocols and SOPs for dealing with various types of disasters and provided them to the States. Between 2014 and 2026, the operational reach and deployment of NDRF have also expanded significantly. Today, the NDRF is deployed at more than 70 locations across the country. In flood-prone areas, NDRF teams reach the locations even before flooding occurs. With advancements in science and technology, early warnings of cyclones, which were earlier available 24 to 48 hours in advance, can

now be issued up to seven days ahead. All citizens are safely evacuated from cyclone-affected areas. Over the past four years, this effective system has helped protect lives and property during several cyclones.



Shri Amit Shah said that during several cyclones in recent years, not a single life was lost. This is a direct outcome of our advance preparedness. NDRF has so far conducted more than 11,000 operations and saved the lives of over 1.61 lakh people. NDRF has not only carried out rescue operations in India but has also extended its services to several countries, including Japan, Nepal, Türkiye and Sri Lanka, bringing honour to NDRF and the Tricolour. Earlier, whenever a disaster struck India, disaster response agencies from across the world would come forward to assist the country. Today, whenever a disaster strikes anywhere in the world, our NDRF proudly represents India and reaches the affected areas to save lives. This is a significant achievement of the Government of India.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has paid special attention to three key areas concerning the NDRF: expansion, resources and training. Resources do not merely mean budgetary allocations; the Ministry has also played an important role in ensuring the availability of modern equipment. The year 2026 has been declared the Year of Capacity Building for the National Disaster Response Force.



Shri Amit Shah said that soon NDRF would have emerged as a leading disaster response force among all such agencies across the world. Northeast India is an extremely important part of our country. It shares borders with several countries and plays a crucial role in many important national initiatives. Today, an NDRF battalion has been established near Itanagar in the border region of Arunachal Pradesh. Our NDRF personnel will be capable of protecting the entire Northeast from disasters, demonstrating their valour and ensuring positive outcomes. The Central Government will extend all possible assistance to the entire Northeastern region, and round-the-clock operations will be conducted throughout the year to save the lives of thousands and lakhs of people in the region.



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