

## Legislative Council, Budget Session -2015

Mr. Naresh Kumar Gupta, Hon'ble MLC to move:

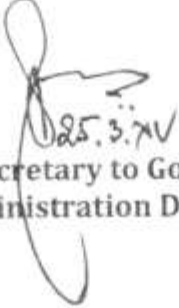
"This House resolves that in view of the erstwhile District Doda being worst affected by earth quakes, drought, floods etc. A separate Ministry called Chenab Valley Affairs department be created."

**Reply:**

The situation arising in any part of the State due to earthquakes, droughts, floods etc. is addressed on war footing basis by the local administration and various departments of the Government work in coordination, to reach the affected people due to such natural calamities. The Department of Revenue was also dealing with Disaster Management, particularly with reference to relief and rehabilitation, in the areas affected due to the natural calamities.

Relief and Rehabilitation will now be looked after by a separate Minister and an independent Administrative Secretary has been posted recently vide Government order No. 364-GAD of 2015, dated 15-03-2015, pursuant to Cabinet Decision No. 09/03/2015, dated 15-03-2015 and designated as Secretary to the Government, Relief and Rehabilitation for, inter-alia, catering to such eventualities. Therefore, there is no need to create a separate Ministry called the 'Chenab Valley Affairs Department' for addressing situations arising out of such natural calamities. Such an exercise would only be a duplication of efforts and will lead to the overlapping of activities to be carried out during such operations, which may even prove to be counter-productive.

The resolution is, therefore, opposed.

  
Under Secretary to Government,  
General Administration Department