

Kiren Rijiju inaugurating the meeting on Disaster Rescue Efforts amongst Asia- Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries tomorrow at Vigyan Bhawan

New Delhi, 3 December 2014: The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs are jointly hosting the Two day Roundtables Meetings during 4th and 5th December 2014 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on “Innovations in Technologies for Disaster Rescue Efforts amongst Asia- Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries & Inauguration of the Virtual Knowledge Portal (VKP) and Meeting of the 24x7 Point of Contact (PoC)s of the East Asia Summit (EAS) countries”.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) is organizing an exhibition on “Innovations in Technologies for Disaster Rescue Efforts” on this occasion and more than 40 domestic and international industries will also participate in the exhibition.

At the EAS Foreign Ministers’ Consultations in Bali on July 22, 2011, most of the countries had emphasized the need to improve coordination amongst EAS member countries on disaster management and relief. Taking cue from the East Asia Summit (EAS) in November 19, 2011, at Bali, Indonesia and successful organization of 1st EAS-India Workshop-2012 in New Delhi, followed by Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers Meeting (FMM11) in New Delhi in November 2013, an initiative for Roundtables on Disaster Management for ASEM/EAS/ASEAN countries has emerged.

The Meeting will be attended by the representative of ASEM and EAS countries. Delegates from International Organizations such as ADPC, UN-SPIDER, UNICEF, UNESCAP, NSET and ECHO will also attend these meetings. Officials & experts from various Central Ministries, States, and Technical Institutions etc. from India will be participating in this meetings.

The main objective of these roundtable meetings is to discuss and explore use of innovations in technologies for Disaster Rescue efforts amongst the ASEM countries as well as the inauguration of the Virtual Knowledge Portal (VKP) as a web based tool to share knowledge & best practices related to natural disaster risk assessment, mitigation, and response. These meetings will also offer an opportunity to promote multilateralism in cross border assistance in the event of disasters and establish a mechanism for activating the 24x7 Point of Contacts of the EAS countries. It will also be discussed how innovations in technology can be utilized to save lives and reduce effective response time by the Governments.

The Minister of State, Home, Shri Kiren Rijiju will inaugurate the Roundtable Meeting on 4th December at Hall No. 6, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

FICCI MEDIA DIVISION