

**Speech Delivered by Honorable Deputy Prime Minister and
 Minister for Home Affairs, Government of Nepal
 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,
 2-5 November, 2016
 New Delhi, India**

His Excellency, ~~Sri Narendra Modi Jee, Prime Minister of India,~~
~~Excellencies the Deputy Prime Ministers,~~
 Excellencies the Ministers,
 His Excellency, Special Representative of Secretary-General of
 the United Nations,
 Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
 Representatives of Civil Society Organizations,
 Media Persons,
 Ladies and Gentlemen

Namaskar,

and chair this session in

It is indeed a great honor and a privilege for me to attend *in*
 this very important Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster
 Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), 2016. I and my fellow delegates
 are very much pleased to avail the warm welcome and

hospitality by the host country. On behalf of the Government of Nepal, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the host country, India, for organizing such an important event after the world conference in Sendai, Japan last year.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was adopted in Sendai, Japan, on March 18, 2015 by 187 countries including Nepal. The priorities for action mentioned in the Sendai Framework are very much relevant to disaster prone countries such as Nepal. Nepal being a multi-hazard prone country, has limited trained human and technical resources to manage the current pace of disaster.

Let me share a few basic facts about Nepal in relation to disaster, in the last 45 years, an average of about 900 people were killed, more than one hundred thirty one thousand families were affected and about 500 incidents occurred annually in Nepal. The environmental and economical losses are beyond our calculation.

The Gorkha Earthquake 2015 alone killed about 9 thousand people, destroyed about one million houses, damaged about more than twenty two thousand school rooms with an estimated loss of USD 9 billion, impacted on the regular development process and peoples livelihood. On behalf of the Government of Nepal, I would like to appreciate all our friendly nations and international community for their timely search and rescue, relief and recovery support.

A National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) was established on 25 December 2015 to lead and manage the recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the earthquake affected infrastructures and families within five years from the date of its establishment. It has formulated a Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF) on the basis of Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) which was completed within 3 months after the earthquake. The Government of Nepal, with the support of friendly nations and development partners, is trying its best to support the affected families and

communities to rebuild their houses and livelihoods with build back better approach.

Let me also reiterate that due to climate change, especially the temperature rise, we are already facing a huge challenge of Glacier Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) in Nepal. Likewise, due to the climate change and other factors the frequency and intensity of disasters in Nepal has increased over the past decade.

However, Nepal is striving for disaster management since 1980 focusing on all components of disaster management cycle through National to local level engagement, resulting that DRR activities are streamlined in development plans and programs; and disaster preparedness and response plans have been prepared and annually updated in all districts.

Furthermore, drawing on the lessons from the past and the new aspects of DRR, Nepal is in the process of formulating a

comprehensive and forward-looking Disaster Management Act which focuses on all components of disaster management cycles. The proposed Disaster Management Act follows the Sendai Framework's priorities, building on learning from HFA and International Decade for Natural Disaster Risk Reduction.

Likewise, Nepal has initiated a process of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into its development plan, implementation mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation tools. Similarly, the Government of Nepal has initiated to develop the Disaster Management Policy and National Strategic Plan of Action based on the Sendai Framework.

The Government of Nepal is fully committed to institutionalize disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development goals in its

development initiatives for making Nepal a disaster resilient nation by 2030.

I am confident that the outcome of this Ministerial Conference will be instrumental for all of us to achieve the Sendai Framework at the National level through a regional framework.

Let me reiterate that Nepal looks forward to working together with all friendly nations and development partners to make disaster resilient communities and nation by 2030 and this can only be achieved if we all work together in a collaborative manner. Further, Nepal is keen to work together with the international community, friendly nations and the neighboring countries to reduce disaster risk and alleviate poverty from the region.

I am confident that this conference will bring a huge success to transform the commitments of governments and

stakeholders made at Sendai, setting the direction to materialize the Asia regional plan through collaborative and coordinated regional efforts.

I wish a grand success

Thank you