

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3379
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/04/2022

MENACE OF WATER LOGGING

3379. SHRI RAKESH SINHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of agricultural land facing water logging problem for average of more than three months, every year, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that Mokama Tal's 1063 sq K M remains inundated with flood waters from June to September every year and loses all crops during the said period;
- (c) whether this water logging has negative impact on farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers, if so, steps Government took or plans to take to end this menace;
- (d) whether Government would conduct a survey to know the impact of water logging; and
- (e) if so, whether Government would issue a national plan to end this menace?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): Data relating to water-logged agricultural land is not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Agriculture and Famers Welfare. The State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from the State Government, in accordance with established procedures.

Water logging is not a calamity notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the State Governments are empowered to utilize up to 10 percent of the funds available under SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State and which are not included in the notified list of disasters of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and incur expenditure as per the SDRF/NDRF guidelines, issued by Government of India (Ministry of Home Affairs) on 08.04.2015.

The State Government of Bihar has been allocated Rs.1510.40 crore (Rs.1132.80 crore as central share & Rs.377.60 crore as state share) under SDRF for 2021-22. The entire central share of SDRF has been released to the State of Bihar.

The schemes relating to flood control are formulated by the concerned State Government as per its priority, as the Flood Management comes under the purview of the State Government. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State by providing technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas. An amount of Rs.16.583 crore was released to the State of Bihar during 2018-19 for projects covered under “Flood Management Programme” component of “Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)”. Further, a total amount of Rs.276.05 crore has been released over a period of four years i.e. from 2017-18 to 2020-21 to the State Government of Bihar for projects covered under “River Management Activities & Works related to Border Areas” component of FMBAP.
