

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 873

ANSWERED ON 25.07.2022

ASSAM FLOOD SITUATION 2022

873 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the precautions taken by Government to prevent and secure people of Assam from the massive flood situation as happened this year;
- (b) whether any special package has been announced by Government for the flood affected areas; and
- (c) whether Government is taking any precautions towards this issue since the release of water from dams by China and Bhutan in the monsoon inundates the already flooded Brahmaputra river and Assam has been grappling with massive floods for last few monsoons?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Flood management including erosion control falls within the purview of the States. Flood management and anti-erosion schemes are formulated and implemented by concerned State Governments as per their priority. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas.

To strengthen the structural measures of flood management, during XI & XII Plan, Ministry had launched Flood Management Programme (FMP) for providing Central Assistance to States for works related to flood management, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, etc. which subsequently continued as a component of "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme" (FMBAP) for the period from 2017-18 to 2021-22. Central assistance of Rs. 245.49 Crores, Rs, 142.12 Crores, Rs. 85.03 Crores and Rs. 14.08 Crores has been released to State of Assam during the years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2021-22 respectively in respect of projects included under this Programme during XI & XII Plans.

Recently, an interim extension of FMBAP has been accorded up to September, 2022 with provision of inclusion of new projects for central funding. One project named "Protection of village Domgaon, Dababeel, Chotonilibari, Debargaon, Dangaigaon, Birengaon, Bherbheri, Rowmari, Khagrabari, Sanyashibari, Uttar-Popragaon and Popragaon from the erosion of river Aie" at an estimated cost of Rs 125.21 Cr of Assam has been included for central assistance.

State Government of Assam has informed that two comprehensive flood management projects, one at Buridehing River and the other at Manas Beki River are to be taken up under World Bank funded project “Assam Integrated River Basin Management Project (AIRBMP)”. State Government of Assam has received the approval of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the proposed “Brahmaputra Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project (BFRERMP)”. These projects are targeted for flood and erosion management in the main stream Brahmaputra.

In respect of non structural measures of flood control, Central Water Commission (CWC) is the nodal Organisation entrusted with the task of flood forecasting & early flood warnings in the country. Presently, CWC issues flood forecasts for 28 forecasting stations (25 in Assam and 3 in Arunachal Pradesh) in Brahmaputra Basin. In order to provide more lead time to the local authorities to plan evacuation of people & take other remedial measures, Central Water Commission (CWC) has developed basin wise flood forecasting model based on rainfall-runoff mathematical modelling for 5 days advance flood forecast advisory at identified flood forecasting and inflow forecasting stations.

(b) The primary responsibility of disaster management rests with the State Governments concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government and provides requisite logistics and financial support. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters including floods from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with the Government of India’s approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure in case of disaster of ‘severe nature’, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). During the year 2022-2023, the State Government of Assam has been allocated Rs. 720.80 crore (Rs. 648.80 crore as Central Share + Rs. 72.00 crore as state share) under the SDRF. The central share of SDRF has been released, in advance, to the State of Assam.

(c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) exists between India and China for sharing of hydrological information of the Yaluzangbu/Brahmaputra River in flood season by China to India for the three stations on Yaluzangbu/Brahmaputra river viz Nugesha, Yangcun and Nuxia. The primary objective of the MoU is flood control and disaster mitigation in downstream areas, mainly in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and further down. As far as Bhutan is concerned, the hydro-meteorological/ meteorological data of 32 stations in Bhutan are utilised in India by the Central Water Commission for formulating flood forecasts. Various issues relating to trans-border rivers are discussed with China and Bhutan under the ambit of the institutionalized bilateral mechanism as well as through diplomatic channels.
