

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 83

ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

FLOODING OF BHARUCH-ANKALESHWAR IN GUJARAT

83. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that flooding of Bharuch-Ankaleshwar in Gujarat during midSeptember-2023 was man-made and not natural;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Central Water Commission (CWC) had warned the Sardar Sarovar Authority in advance of the likely disaster, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the actions taken to fix the accountability for this disaster?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) As per Narmada Control Authority due to heavy rains in the catchment of river Narmada, large inflows were received in the reservoir of Sardar Sarovar Dam in mid September, 2023. As the water level in the reservoir was approaching FRL, water was released downstream as per Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which resulted in flooding in the downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam and thus, the flooding was not man-made.

(b) Central Water Commission (CWC) issues flood forecasts as a non-structural measure of flood management, to concerned State Governments at identified locations. CWC also issues inflow forecasts to identified reservoirs for proper reservoir regulation. CWC maintains 14 Flood Forecasting stations in Gujarat, of which 6 are level forecasting stations and 8 are inflow forecasting stations including Saradar Sarovar Project. Inflow Forecasts for Sardar Sarovar Project have been issued as per SOP.

(c) In view of (a) & (b), question does not arise.
