

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2314

ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

STEPS TO MITIGATE THE WORSENING AND RECURRING FLOOD SITUATION IN BIHAR

2314. SHRI SANJAY YADAV

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that State Government's Flood Management Improvement Support Center has reported that Bihar is country's most flood affected State, with 76 per cent of the population of north Bihar is living under recurrent threat of flood devastation;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a major reason of flood in Bihar is release of water from Nepal;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Patna High Court has directed the Central and State Government to set up Kosi Development Authority (KDA); and
- (d) if so, the steps that are being taken to set up KDA and help mitigate the worsening and recurring flood situation in Bihar?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

- (a) The country faces the problem of flood and erosion in varying degrees in different parts including the state of Bihar.

As per Flood Hazard Atlas of Bihar (2020), prepared by National Remote Sensing Agency in association with National Disaster Management Authority and Government of Bihar, about 76% of the population in the North Bihar lives under the recurring threat of flood devastation.

As per report of "Assessment of Area affected due to floods in India" published by Central Water Commission in 2024, Bihar has flood affected area of 29.14 Lakh Hectare based on satellite data from 1986 to 2022.

- (b) The main reason for floods in the North Bihar is on account of high discharge in rivers of North Bihar like Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Bagmati, Kamla, Kosi and Mahananda due to heavy rainfall in the upper catchment areas of these rivers which mainly lie in Nepal.

- (c) & (d) The matter to set up Kosi Development Authority is under consideration of the Hon'ble Patna High Court through Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.4176/2022.
