

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2617
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2026

FLOODING DUE TO INADEQUATE URBAN DRAINAGE

2617. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the **Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for widespread urban flooding and damage despite urban planning initiatives, exposing vulnerabilities in housing infrastructure;
- (b) the manner in which inadequate urban drainage and housing resilience have worsened rescue operations and displaced families in rain-hit areas;
- (c) the steps taken to integrate climate-resilient urban development standards in flood-prone regions; and
- (d) whether a comprehensive urban renewal plan exists to prevent future disasters and ensure affordable housing for affected populations, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons for the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)

(a) to (d): Management of urban flooding falls under the purview of the State Governments and the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Urban Development Authorities, who are responsible for maintaining the drainage and sewerage system. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through schematic interventions/ advisories. It provides financial and technical support to the States to strengthen Urban Planning ecosystem.

Usually, increased incidence of high intensity rainfall in short duration is mainly responsible for urban floods, which is further compounded by unplanned growth, encroachment of natural water bodies, inadequate sewer systems, inadequate rainwater drainage systems, encroachments, etc.

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has published the following documents/advisory guidelines for improving urban drainage and flood management:

- i. Urban and Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014 ([https://mohua.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/URDPFI%20Guidelines%20Vol%20I\(2\).pdf](https://mohua.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/URDPFI%20Guidelines%20Vol%20I(2).pdf))
- ii. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Urban Flooding (https://mohua.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/SOP%20Urban%20flooding_5%20May%202017.pdf)
- iii. River Centric Urban Planning Guidelines in 2021 to enable cities in the development of conjunctive water management approaches including nature-based solution (<https://mohua.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/RCUP%20Guidelines.pdf>)
- iv. Guidance Document on Creation of Rain Water Harvesting Parks (<https://mohua.gov.in/pdf/6566e1048ab41guidance-document-on-rainwater-harvesting-parks-final.pdf>)
- v. Manual on Storm Water Drainage System (<https://mohua.gov.in/publication/manual-on-storm-water-drainage-systems--2019.php>)

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) launched in the year 2015, inter alia, has a component on storm water drainage, which involved construction and improvement of drains/ storm water drains in order to reduce and eliminate flooding and creating green spaces and parks. Under AMRUT, 838 Storm Water Drainage projects worth ₹3017.13 crore were approved. As reported by the States on AMRUT Portal, 820 Storm Water Drainage projects worth ₹2,448.12 crore have been completed. Under AMRUT, 2,522 green spaces and park projects worth ₹1,604.13 crore have been taken up by the States/UTs, of which, 2,502 projects worth ₹1,579.27 crore have been completed. 5,286 acres of permeable green space area have been developed through these projects so far.

Under AMRUT 2.0, projects for green spaces and parks and rejuvenation of water bodies and wells are taken up by the States. Under AMRUT 2.0, proposals of the States/ UTs for 2,991 water body rejuvenation projects worth ₹6,083.32 crore and 1,665 green spaces and park projects worth ₹1,103.71 crore covering 13,893.82 acre, have been approved.

Besides, under AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0 sewerage and septage management projects have been undertaken, which inter alia help in evacuation of storm water. Under AMRUT, as updated by State/UTs on AMRUT portal, 889 sewerage/septage management projects have been grounded, which has led to creation of 22,477 km length of sewer network. Under AMRUT 2.0, the State/UTs have taken up 584 Sewerage and Septage Management projects covering 34,559 KM of sewer network.

The Government has launched the Urban Flood Risk Management Programme (UFRMP) under the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF) in 2021. This initiative specifically targets seven major metropolitan cities namely, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and Pune, with a total allocation of ₹2,500 crore.

The UFRMP Phase II, with a budget of ₹2,200 crores, targets flood risk mitigation in eleven cities (Tier-II cities) namely, Guwahati, Patna, Kanpur, Trivandrum, Visakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Jaipur, Indore, Lucknow, and Raipur with an allocation of Rs. 222.22 crore each [INR 200 Cr from NDMF (90%) and INR 22.22 Cr from State share (10%)] to assess flood risks, develop preparedness plans, establish multi-hazard frameworks, and enhance community resilience.
