

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2636**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 09th JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 18, 1941 (SAKA)

LOSS DUE TO FLOOD

2636. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is facing heavy losses due to flood every year; and**
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the Early Warning System for floods and the measures taken to deal with disasters caused by monsoon in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The subject of flood management comes under the purview of States and various schemes for flood control are formulated and implemented by concerned States as per their priority. The Union Government supplements their efforts by providing technical guidance and financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas.

Central Water Commission (CWC) is the nodal agency for flood forecasting in the country. CWC maintains 325 flood forecasting stations spread across 22 State and UTs covering 20 major river systems in the country. The early warning on flood is provided by CWC on real time basis to all the concerned stakeholders for taking appropriate precautionary measures. In order to meet the requirement of real-time forecast, CWC has undertaken modernization of its data collection and flood forecast network. The hydro-meteorological data is automatically received in various modeling centers across the country.

India with its continuous efforts has significantly improved its preparedness to deal with natural calamities. The Disaster Management Act 2005 articulates the need for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into development planning. The National Policy on Disaster Management 2009 seeks to build a safe and disaster resilient India. As per provisions of the Act, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), National Institute of Disaster Management created in 2006 at national level. At State level, State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) created in all States and District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) created in more than 680 districts. As per provisions of the Act, financial mechanism for managing disaster response has been set-up by creation of National and State Disaster Response Funds.

Some of the major steps taken by Government of India for dealing with natural disasters including those caused by monsoon are given at Annexure.

Statement showing some of the major steps taken by Government of India for dealing with natural disasters including those caused by monsoon.

- **Release of National Disaster Management Plan in 2016.**
- **India Meteorological Department (IMD) improved significantly its forecasting system against the advancement of southwest monsoon, cyclones and severe weather phenomena like heavy rains etc. and issues warnings and advisory bulletins in the country.**
- **IMD has started thunderstorm and lightning forecast from April 2019 for which they have installed 48 lightning sensors. A mobile application named Damini for lightning prediction has also been developed to disseminate the information.**
- **Publication of 26 guidelines on different disasters by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) including guidelines on management of flood and cyclone.**
- **Setting up of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for prompt response and pre-positioning of NDRF in disaster vulnerable areas and preposition them across various vulnerable locations in the country.**
- **Encouraging States to set-up their own State Disaster Response Forces.**
- **Strengthening of State and District Disaster Management systems through various schemes of central government.**
- **Construction of multi-purpose cyclone shelters and training of coastal communities.**
- **Conducting mock drills, awareness campaigns, audio visual campaigns and workshops for effectively responding to disasters.**
- **Carrying out capacity building of disaster professionals and communities by NDMA, NDRF and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM).**
- **Apada Mitra scheme with the objective to train 6000 community volunteers in disaster response in 30 most flood prone districts (200 volunteers per district) of 25 States of India of the identified districts falling under the scheme.**
- **Organizing Annual Conference of Relief Commissioners and Secretaries of the Department of Disaster Management of States and Union Territories to review their status of preparedness for dealing with any natural disasters.**

