

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.97
TO BE ANSWERED ON FEBRUARY 02, 2023
OCCURRENCE OF URBAN FLOODS

NO. 97. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR:

Will the Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs be pleased to state:

- a) Whether the Government has any data indicating the causes for frequent occurrence of urban floods in the country, State-wise;**
- b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- c) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the economic loss caused to the citizens due to urban floods;**
- d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- e) whether the Government has taken any measures or prepared a strategy to prevent urban floods and help mitigate the future losses;and**
- f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a) &(b): Management of urban flooding falls under purview of the State Governments and Urban Local Body/Urban Development Authority who are responsible for maintaining the drainage and sewerage system.However, MoHUAhas issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on urban flooding in 2017 to assist all State Governments/UTs to raise the level of preparedness and for emergency operations/ rescue and restoration services. The SoP identified unplanned development, encroachments, sprawling habitations alongside rivers, urban growth on watersheds, intensified urbanization coupled with spatial expansion of urban areas and absence of robust drainage system are some of the reasons for urban flooding.

(c) to (f) As on date there are no studies conducted on the economic loss caused to the citizens due to urban floods. However, as per data compiled by Central Water Commission (CWC), losses due to floods across all States to public utilities, houses and crops have been aggregated during 1953 -2016 to approximately Rs. 3,47,581crore.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) issued Guidelines on 'Management of Urban Flooding' in September, 2010 to, inter-alia, assist State Governments in preparation of their Urban Flood Management Plan. The Guidelines also contain roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders including actions to be taken for disaster risk management with regard to Urban Flooding. They have prepared and shared a road map for mitigation of urban floods with all States/UTs.

Since 2021-22, NDMA is implementing Aapda Mitra scheme covering 350 districts across the country prone to floods, landslides, cyclones and earthquakes to train 1,00,000 volunteers in disaster response for assisting and saving lives using the basic techniques. NDMA also spearheaded many publications, guidelines and capacity building workshops for State Governments and vulnerable communities towards resilience building for disasters including urban floods.

In order to complement the efforts of State/UT Governments, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is implementing 'Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation' (AMRUT) in select 500 cities and towns. Under the Mission, ₹2969 crores has been allocated for storm water drainage. Against this allocation, 19 States/UTs have taken up 809 projects worth ₹2980 crores. Of these, 689 projects worth ₹1420 crores have been completed. The completed projects have helped eliminate 2,952 water logging points by laying 871 km of storm water drainage network. Ministry has published a Manual on Storm Water Drainage Systems, 2019 to provide guidance on sustainable design, planning & management of storm water drainage systems and emergency plan for flood response in urban areas.