

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 221

ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

FLOODS IN WEST BENGAL

221. SHRI RAJU BISTA

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of landslides and floods in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Jalpaiguri districts of West Bengal where many people are left homeless and houses washed away due to landslides and flooding during the rainy season and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any report from the Government of West Bengal regarding measures to control landslides and soil erosion in hilly regions of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to conduct a study and consultation with local stakeholders to resolve the problems of soil erosion and flooding in the region and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) District-wise data of damages due to floods is not maintained centrally. State-wise damages due to heavy rain and floods are compiled by Central Water Commission after receipt of confirmation from respective States/UTs. The Flood damage statistics as reported by the State Government of West Bengal for damages to houses for the period from 2019 to 2021 is given below-

S. No.	Year	Damage to Houses	
		Numbers	Rs. in Crores
1	2019	57248	46.63
2	2020	11568	-
3	2021	236201	3383.23

(b) & (c) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has informed that under the Seasonal Landslide Inventory Mapping Program (SLIM), the landslide mapping for post monsoon season in the years 2014 and 2017 was carried out using remote sensing techniques. In the year 2014, a total of 25 landslides were mapped in Darjeeling District. In the year 2017, 41 landslides were mapped in Darjeeling District and 41 landslides were mapped in the Kalimpong District. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has informed that GSI is working in close coordination with State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), West Bengal for the landslide forecasting system in Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts, West Bengal. The findings of the landslide studies carried out by GSI are uploaded in Bhukosh portal (<https://bhukosh.gsi.gov.in/Bhukosh/Public>). For flood management, the State Government of West Bengal has strengthened the embankments and built bank protection works at identified damaged and vulnerable locations in the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts at a total cost of Rs.551.99 Crore during the period from 2017-18 to 2022-23.
