

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 811

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

FLOOD AS CALAMITY

811. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to consider flood and river erosion as National Calamity;
- (b) if not, whether flood of any specific region has been considered as National Calamity and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reason for not considering Assam flood as National Calamity; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take necessary steps to announce Assam flood as National Calamity and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (d) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the States. The Government of India supplements in the efforts of State Governments by providing logistics and financial assistance, if required. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of 12 notified natural disasters which includes flood, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with approved items and norms of the Government of India. Additional financial assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the laid down procedure, which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). The scheme of SDRF/NDRF does not contemplate declaration of any calamity as a National Calamity.

The issue of inclusion of more calamities including river erosion, in the existing notified list of calamities was considered by the 15th Finance Commission. The Commission had *inter-alia* observed that the list of notified disasters eligible for funding from SDRF and NDRF covers the needs of the State to large extent and thus, did not find merit in the request to expand its scope.
