GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2469

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 2024/ SHRAVAN 15, 1946 (SAKA)

RIVER EROSION IN ASSAM

2469 MD. RAKIBUL HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has data on how many individuals have been affected by river erosion in Assam during the financial years 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24;

(b) if so, the details of individuals who got rehabilitated after "river erosion" was termed as a natural calamity by the 15th Finance Commission;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has undertaken any steps to ensure that the State Government updates the information of all affected individuals following any river erosion incident; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) Data relating to number of individuals affected by river erosion

is not maintained by this Ministry centrally. As per the National Disaster

Management Policy, the primary responsibility for disaster management

L.S.US.Q.NO. 2469 FOR 06.08.2024

rests with the States. The rehabilitation of people due to flood and erosion comes under the purview of state concerned.

Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV-FC) had noted that coastal and river erosion can have serious adverse socio-economic consequences. It had considered two aspects related to erosion i.e. mitigation measures to prevent erosion [(under National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF)] and resettlement of displaced people affected by erosion [under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)].

Accordingly, to mitigate the risk of erosion, XV-FC had recommended an allocation of Rs. 1,500 crore from NDMF for the award period 2021-22 to 2025-26 and Rs. 1000 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for resettlement of displaced people affected by erosion.

Further, based on the recommendations of the XV-FC, the Central Government has allocated Rs. 948.40 crore under the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) to the State Government of Assam for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. The State Government can undertake mitigation activities for various disasters, as per the guidelines on SDMF. The Central Government has issued guidelines for release of funds under NDMF for undertaking mitigation measures for coastal and river erosion and a policy on resettlement of people affected by erosion on 20.06.2024. All the guidelines on NDMF issued on 28.02.2022, SDMF issued on 14.01.2022, the guidelines for coastal and river erosion issued on 20.06.2024 as well as the policy on resettlement of people affected by erosion issued on 20.06.2024 are available on the MHA website www.ndmindia.mha.gov.in

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