

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2846**

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

**FLOOD AS A CALAMITY**

2846. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that three States namely West Bengal, Assam and Bihar suffers annually from floods and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to declare floods as a national calamity considering the magnitude of floods in these States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) The three States namely West Bengal, Assam and Bihar suffer annually from flood in varying degrees. As per Central Water Commission (CWC) publication in year 2024 of “Assessment of Area affected due to floods in India”, flood affected areas delineated from satellite imageries data during the period 1986-2022 is assessed as 1.84 Mha, 2.477 Mha and 2.914 Mha for West Bengal, Assam and Bihar respectively.

(b) & (c) Floods are natural calamity and the State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of a severe nature and is approved on the basis of a Memorandum received from the State Government, in accordance with established procedures by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

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