

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3951

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

FLOOD SITUATION IN ASSAM

3951. SHRI PHANI BHUSAN CHOUDHURY

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

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to safeguard the citizens against the yearly devastating flood disaster in Assam as China and Bhutan are releasing water from their dams in the Brahmaputra River during the monsoon;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any proactive steps to address this issue and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the initiatives taken/being taken by the Government towards the permanent solution for the flood and erosion in Assam?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Various issues relating to trans-border rivers are discussed with China under the ambit of an institutionalized Expert Level Mechanism which was established in 2006. Further, water level and discharge are observed and monitored at sites on Brahmaputra River close to the international boundary between India and China.

A Joint Expert Team (JET) has been constituted in 1979 to monitor the progress of the work related to collection and transmission of hydro meteorological data on 36 hydro-meteorological sites on common rivers flowing from Bhutan to India including releases from dams of Bhutan like Tala HEP, Chukha HEP and Kurichhu dam, etc. The data received from above 36 stations are utilised in India by Central Water Commission for formulating flood forecasts.

(c) Flood management & anti-erosion schemes are planned, investigated and implemented by the State Governments with their own resources as per priority within the State. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States by way of technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for flood management in critical areas. To strengthen the structural measures of flood management, Union Government had implemented Flood Management Programme (FMP) during XI & XII Plans for providing central assistance to States for works related to flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea

erosion, etc. which subsequently continued as a component of "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme" (FMBAP) for the period from 2017-18 to 2020-21 and was further extended up to 2026. Total 141 flood management projects with estimated cost of Rs. 2383.11 Crore has been included under Flood Management Programme (FMP) for the state of Assam. The total central assistance released to State of Assam under Flood Management Programme (FMP) since XI plan is Rs. 1557.04 Crore. 111 number of completed projects in the State of Assam under FMP component of FMBAP have given protection to an area of around 7.365 lakh ha and to a population of about 1.745 crore.

In addition to this, Govt. of Assam informed that State has so far constructed 4,532 Km of embankments, completed 1,280 anti-erosion and town protection works, built 122 major and 545 minor sluice gates, and strengthened 1,047.85 Km of existing dykes by raising them to higher standards of resilience.

Under World Bank funded project "Assam Integrated River Basin Management Programme (AIRBMP)", two comprehensive flood management schemes, one at Buridehing river and the other at Manas-Beki river have been taken up by Government of Assam.

Further, CWC issues short-range flood forecasts with lead times of up to 24 hours as well as long term forecast with 7-day Flood Advisory Forecasts, as a non- structural measure of flood management to reduce loss of life and ensure proper reservoir operation. CWC maintains 30 level Flood Forecasting Stations in Assam.
