GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1274

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025/ MAGHA 22, 1946 (SAKA)

REHABILITATION OF EROSION HIT COMMUNITIES

1274. SHRI JOYANTA BASUMATARY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the 15th Finance Commission accorded river erosion as a natural calamity and recommended for adequate compensation including rehabilitation under SDRF and NDRF and if so, the details thereof along with the subsequent action taken in response to the 15th Finance Commission recommendations;
- (b) the status of implementation of 15th Finance Commission's recommendations on allocation of funds for resettlement of displaced people affected by erosion under NDRF along with the details of mitigation measures to prevent erosion;
- (c) the details of funds allocated to Assam so far for relief and rehabilitation for erosion-hit communities under SDRF and NDRF respectively; and
- (d) whether the Union Government has received the report from the Government of Assam regarding the details of victims in the State, who have become landless and homeless due to erosion and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) 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)].

Given the magnitude of the problem XV-FC has recommended that both the Union and State Government develop a policy to deal with the extensive displacement of people caused by coastal and river erosion.

Further, to mitigate the risk of erosion, XV-FC had also 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 an amount of Rs.3793.60 crore under SDRF for relief and an amount of 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, including flood and erosion, as per the guidelines on SDMF.

In view of recommendations of XV-FC, the Central Government has issued guidelines titled "Guidelines for approval and release of Funds for Coastal and River Erosion under National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF)" and a policy titled "Policy on Resettlement of people Affected by Erosion under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)" both dated 20.06.2024.

The NDMF guidelines dated 28.02.2022, SDMF guidelines dated 14.01.2022, guidelines for coastal and river erosion dated 20.06.2024 as well as the policy on resettlement of people affected by erosion dated 20.06.2024, are available on the MHA website www.ndmindia.mha.gov.in.

The State Governments including the State of Assam can avail funds on cost sharing basis, contributing 10 percent of the cost of resettlement. The State Government of Assam is yet to submit their proposal.
