GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2411

ANSWERED ON 13.03.2025

PREVENTION OF FLOODS

†2411. SHRI UTKARSH VERMA MADHUR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any long term plan to prevent floods that occur every year or there are plans for rescue and relief work only after the floods occur and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is working on any concrete plan to desilt the rivers and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the permanent solution for the floods that occur every year in Lakhimpur Kheri area of Uttar Pradesh and cause irreparable loss of life and property; and

(d) whether all the rescue work and relief material fall short for the same and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (d) Floods are natural calamity that the country faces almost every year, in varying degrees of magnitude. Flood management and anti-erosion schemes are formulated and implemented by concerned State Governments as per their priority. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas. Flood protection and flood management measures are broadly classified as Structural Measures and Non-Structural Measures. Integrated flood management approach aims at adopting judicious mix of structural and non-structural measures to provide a reasonable degree of protection against flood damages at economic cost.

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 has further been extended during 2021-22 to 2025-26.

For Non structural measures, Central Water Commission (CWC) is the nodal Organisation entrusted with the task of flood forecasting & early flood warnings in the country. Presently, CWC issues flood forecasts for 340 forecasting stations (200 river level forecast stations & 140 dam/ barrage inflow forecast stations). These stations cover 20 major river basins in 23 States & 2 Union Territories. In order to provide more lead time to the local authorities to plan evacuation of people & take other remedial measures, Central

Water Commission (CWC) has developed basin wise flood forecasting model based on rainfall-runoff mathematical modelling for 7-days advance flood forecast advisory at identified flood forecasting and inflow forecasting stations.

A National Framework for Sediment Management (NFSM) has been published by Ministry of Jal Shakti in October, 2022 as a comprehensive framework for managing the sediments in rivers in addition to catchment and reservoirs throughout India in a holistic manner. It will facilitate the State Govts, other Ministries, Departments, etc in planning strategies and implementation of projects giving due consideration to environment and ecology.

Financial assistance of Rs. 692.75 crore has been released to State Government of Uttar Pradesh for taking up flood management projects under FMBAP since its inception. Central Assistance amounting to Rs 44.16 Crore under FMP component of FMBAP have been provided to three flood management projects on river Ghaghara and Sharda benefiting Lakhimpur District of Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has a network of 44 Flood Forecasting Stations (39 Level & 5 Inflow) covering all the major rivers in the State.

The primary responsibility of disaster management rests with the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government and provides requisite logistics and financial support. The State Government undertakes assessment of damages caused due to 12 notified natural calamities including rain and floods and provide relief assistance from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal as per Government of India's approved norms. Additional financial assistance is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure in case of disaster of 'severe nature' which includes an assessment based on the visit of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).
