

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1037**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST JULY, 2024/ SRAVANA 9, 1946 (SAKA)

FLOODS IN ASSAM

1037 MS. SUSHMITA DEV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of casualties as a result of devastating floods in Assam in the last five years, year-wise and district-wise data details thereof;**
- (b) the details of steps, Government has taken to do a scientific study about the solutions for flooding of River Brahmaputra and River Barak; and**
- (c) the amount of aid demanded by State Government of Assam and the amount granted to the SDRF in the last five years for Assam year-wise details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): This Ministry does not maintain any data centrally on casualties due to disasters, including floods. However, as per information furnished by State Government of Assam, details of casualties as a result of devastating floods in Assam State during last five years i.e. 2019 to 2023 and 2024 (as on 25.07.2024) is given as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of State	Years					2024 (As on 25.07.2024)	Total
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
1.	Assam	157	190	73	278	65	117	880

(b): National Remote Sensing Center (NRSC), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has prepared state level flood hazard zonation atlas for Assam using satellite data of 1998-2023. This serves as non-structural resources for flood hazard management, for developmental planning.

North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC)/ Department of Space (DOS) has generated River Atlas consisting of geospatial database of Brahmaputra River in Assam, including river & drainage network, embankment locations, river gauge locations, road/ rail network etc. at 1:5000 scale. This database is helpful for planning and management of water resources.

NESAC, Department of Space (DOS) has also identified 271 wetlands, which can be utilized for channelising excess water from rivers, including Brahmaputra River, during monsoon season.

NESAC has also developed a Flood Early Warning System (FLEWS) for Brahmaputra basin in the state of Assam based on numerical rainfall prediction and a physics based distributed hydrological model in Geographic Information System (GIS) domain. Alerts are provided to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) with a lead-time of 24 to 36 hours.

Central Water Commission (CWC) issues flood forecasts as a non-structural

measure of flood management, to concerned State Governments at identified locations. CWC also issues inflow forecasts to identified reservoirs for proper reservoir regulation. CWC prepares 7-day advisory flood forecasts through basin-specific mathematical models using India Meteorological Department (IMD) weather forecast products and near real-time satellite rainfall estimates. These flood advisories are disseminated through the web Portal <https://aff.india-water.gov.in/home.php> to stakeholders. In addition to this, CWC has 67 hydrological observations sites in Barak basin and 173 hydrological observation sites in Brahmaputra basin.

Further, the Government of Assam has informed that, the Water Resources Department has been implementing flood and River bank erosion management schemes as per the recommendation of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA). The Department has been implementing Short and Medium term solution to the perennial problem of flood and erosion in the State. The Water Resources Department of the Government of Assam has protected 16.50 lakh hectares of flood-affected land, constructed 4532 km of embankments, 1280 numbers of anti-erosion and town protection works, 122 numbers of major sluice and 545 numbers of minor sluice and 1047.85 km of raising and strengthening of existing dyke till year 2023-24.

(c): As per the National Policy on Disaster Management, the primary

responsibility for disaster management, including disbursement of relief to the affected people, rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at their disposal, in accordance with the Government of India's approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance is provided from the 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).

The allocation of SDRF to States is based on the recommendations of successive Finance Commissions, set up under Article 280 of the Constitution, from time to time. The details of funds allocated and released from SDRF and NDRF to the State of Assam during last five years i.e. 2019-20 to 2023-24 is given as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Years	Annual allocation under SDRF	Centre's share of SDRF released	Released from NDRF	Allocation under SDMF	Centre's share of SDMF released
2019-20	559.00	503.10	0.00	----	----
2020-21	686.40	617.60	44.37	171.60	154.40
2021-22	686.40	617.60	0.00	171.60	154.40
2022-23	720.80	648.80	250.00	180.20	0.00
2023-24	756.80	680.80	0.00	189.20	162.20 #

Includes arrears of previous year.
