

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3086
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013
ACTION PLAN FOR FLOODS
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry has formulated any action plan for management of floods as per the advice of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) had sent any forecasts to Uttarakhand Government before the recent natural calamity which happened in Uttarakhand;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, whether the Government has taken any action against those officers who are responsible for this criminal negligence; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) and (b) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) has taken following steps in line with the guidelines of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
- (i) In 2006, Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) had identified 39 districts in the country as flood prone districts. Further, an Expert Committee was constituted by Ministry of Water Resources in July, 2012 for Scientific Assessment of flood prone areas in the country.
- (ii) A Flood Management Programme (FMP) was launched during XI Plan for providing assistance to States for works related to flood management and erosion control.
- (iii) Action has been taken on important recommendations of expert committees like Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) and Task Force-2004 on Flood Management / Erosion Control.
- (iv) Various training programmes are run by National Water Academy, Pune which serves the objective of National Flood Management Institute recommended by NDMA.
- (v) The desilting and dredging of rivers has already been studied by RBA-1980 and a Committee on Siltation of Rivers, headed by Dr. B.K. Mittal, then Chairman, CWC.
- (vi) Central Water Commission (CWC) has initiated actions for expansion and modernisation of its flood forecasting network.
- (vii) The flood related matters are regularly coordinated by CWC/MOWR with IMD. An MOU exists between CWC and IMD for sharing of meteorological / rainfall data.
- (viii) MOWR has bilateral platforms for having dialogue with Nepal, Bhutan, China, Bangladesh and Pakistan on matters pertaining to water resources and flood management in India.
- (ix) CWC has provided necessary technical guidance to States for preparation of Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) by concerned dam owners.
- (x) CWC had prepared model bill on Flood Plain Zoning way back in 1975. The legislation has been enacted by three States namely, Manipur, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.
- (xi) Flood data is being collected in a systematic manner through hydrological and flood forecasting network of Central Water Commission. A Water Resources System (WRIS) has been launched where such digitised data is available.

(c) & (d) In Uttarakhand, Central Water Commission issues flood forecasts for its stations located at Rishikesh and Haridwar on river Ganga whenever river water levels at these stations touch or exceed the pre-defined warning levels. Prior to occurrence of natural calamity on 16th June, 2013 in Uttarakhand, the water levels at Rishikesh and Haridwar on river Ganga had remained below pre-defined warning levels, therefore, no forecasts were issued by CWC prior to 16th June, 2013. CWC had issued flood forecasts for Rishikesh and Haridwar during 16th to 18th June, 2013 when water levels had exceeded the pre-defined warning levels. The details of forecast issued by CWC for Rishikesh and Haridwar during 16th to 18th June, 2013 are given in Annexure.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of reply under parts (c) and (d)