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Title: Need to provide adequate assistance to address problems arising due to floods in North-Eastern States.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA : Madam Speaker, I thank you very much. I rise to raise an urgent matter of public importance.

Flash floods in the North-East India and landslides in the hilly regions of North-East India during monsoon have been annual phenomena. This time, the death toll due to flash floods and landslides in the North-Eastern region has crossed 300 people.

Heavy monsoon rains, flash floods and landslides wreak havoc in Imphal, Guwahati, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. The two lifelines of Manipur, NH-2 and NH-37, are cut off completely, causing immediate closure of movement of goods and passengers. Encroachment of natural water bodies in the valley areas in the name of modern development and civilization accompanied with shallow riverbeds appear to be some of the reasons for these flash floods.

Madam, it is high time to have a dedicated flash flood management policy for the entire North-East and Manipur in particular. Flash floods do come very fast and quickly, wreak havoc and disappear.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government and the Ministries of Home Affairs and Water Resources to immediately intervene and help the States of the North-East India to mitigate the situation by immediately sanctioning adequate relief funds. Let us also immediately formulate a dedicated flash flood management policy for the entire North-East region and Manipur in particular.

Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER:

Shri Ninong Ering,

Kumari Sushmita Dev,

Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and

Shri Thangso Baite are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Thokchom Meinya.