GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2458
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2025

National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

2458. SMT. HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any districts of Punjab have been identified as climate-vulnerable under the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change;
(b) if so, the names of such districts and parameters used for their identification; and
(c) whether the Central Government proposes to extend adaptation funding to other flood prone districts in the State?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (b) The Department of Science and Technology has supported a project on 'Climate vulnerability and risk assessments' under the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC). Under this project, 698 Districts of the country, including from Punjab have been assessed using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-aligned climate risk framework. The report, which emerged from this study, identifies multiple districts in Punjab as climate-vulnerable, particularly in terms of flood exposure and drought sensitivity. The report has categorised the districts as 'Relatively High Vulnerable', Relatively Moderate Vulnerable' and 'Relatively Low Vulnerable'. Tarn Taran, Moga and Gurdaspur districts fall into the category of 'Relatively High Vulnerable'. Barnala, Mansa, Ferozepur, Sangrur, Bathinda, Kapurthala, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Faridkot, Fazilka, Patiala, Jalandhar, Pathankot, Amritsar and SBS Nagar districts fall into the category of 'Relatively Moderate Vulnerable'. Rupnagar, Hoshiarpur, Fatehgarh Sahib, SAS Nagar and Ludhiana districts fall into the category of 'Relatively Low Vulnerable'. The assessment follows an IPCC-based risk framework, using three main components and their indicators are: -

i. Hazard (Flood & Drought Exposure)- Projected flood inundation, drought severity index, historical flood frequency, rainfall variability
ii. Exposure Population density, agricultural dependence, built-up areas
iii. Sensitivity Cropland intensity, groundwater dependence, irrigation structure density.

(c) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has supported preparation of State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) for the State of Punjab. The SAPCC incorporates mitigation as well as adaptation measures, including initiatives of Disaster Resilient Infrastructures, inter-alia, providing for measures for flood management, development of a flood forecasting project; strengthening embankments along rivers Beas and Sutlej; building check dams; establishing flood protection structures; and implementation of flood protection and drainage projects by the State.

As per the National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), the primary responsibility for disaster management, including disbursal of relief assistance on ground level, rests with the State Governments concerned. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including floods and landslide, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal, in accordance with Government of India approved items and norms. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments and provides requisite logistics and financial support. Additional financial assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as per laid down procedure.

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