

Press Information Bureau
Ministry of Home Affairs

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah holds High-Level Meeting to review preparedness on flood situation in the country. In this meeting a number decisions were taken to have a new system of co-ordination between IMD, Jal Shakti Ministry, CWC and NDRF

Shri Amit Shah reviews formulation of a long-term comprehensive policy to deal with the problem of floods occurring every year across the country

The Union Home Minister directed officials to maintain better synergy between the Central and State agencies to create a permanent system for forecasting floods and water level rise in major catchment zones and regions of the country

Shri Amit Shah suggested to the Ministry of Jal Shakti to devise a mechanism to remove soil from large dams, which would help in increasing capacity of dams and in flood control

The Union Home Minister also advised specialized institutions like the India Meteorological Department and the Central Water Commission to use state-of-the-art technology and satellite data for more accurate weather and flood predictions

The Union Home Minister directed the formation of an SOP immediately to broadcast to the public at the earliest the IMD warnings regarding lightning strikes through various mediums

Various mobile apps related to weather forecasting like 'Umang', 'Rain Alarm' and 'Damini' app should be given maximum publicity so that their benefits reach the targeted population

Damini app triggers warning about lightning strikes three hours in advance which can help reduce losses to life and property

While being sensitive to rivers, we should also take care of water flow of the rivers

New Delhi, 15.06.2021

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah held a high-level meeting today to review the preparedness of measures to deal with flood situation in the country. In this meeting a number decisions were taken to have a new system of co-ordination between the IMD, Jal Shakti Ministry, CWC and NDRF. He also reviewed the long-term measures for formulation of a

comprehensive and overarching policy to mitigate the perennial flood problems of the country.

Union Home Minister directed the officials to continue to strengthen coordination between the Central and State agencies to have a permanent system for forecasting of floods and rise in water levels in major catchment zones/ areas of the country.



Shri Amit Shah advised the Ministry of Jal Shakti to work out a mechanism for desilting of large dams, which will help in increasing dam storage capacity and help in flood control.

The Union Home Minister also advised specialized institutions like the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Central Water Commission to use state-of-the-art technology and satellite data for more accurate weather and flood predictions. The Union Home Minister directed the formation of an SOP immediately to broadcast IMD warnings on lightning strikes to the public at the earliest through TV, FM Radio, SMS and other mediums. He also directed for giving maximum publicity to various mobile apps related to weather forecasting like 'Umang', 'Rain Alarm' and 'Damini', developed by the IMD, so that their benefits reach the targeted population. Damini app triggers warning about lightning strikes three hours in advance which can help reduce losses to life and property.



Shri Amit Shah also advised that studies should be conducted through satellite application on the increasing strains on our river systems. He also underlined that while being sensitive to rivers, we should also take care about water flow of the rivers. The Home Minister directed the Central Water Commission, the Indian Meteorological Department and the National Disaster Response Force to continuously monitor the water level and flood situation in rivers and send regular reports to the Ministry of Home Affairs. He also directed the DG NDRF to immediately hold meetings with the heads of the SDRF in flood prone states.

Complying with the directions given by Shri Amit Shah during the flood review meeting held last year on 3rd July 2020, the Central Water Commission (CWC) has started to issue 5-day advance inflow forecast for all the reservoirs in the country. Shri Amit Shah directed the Ministry of Jal Shakti and CWC to further set up an empowered group of experts for providing practical guidance to dam authorities for taking timely and advance action for release of water and in order to further reduce flooding and minimize loss to property and lives.

Director General, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) made presentations and informed about the action taken on the directions given by Union Home Minister in the flood review meeting held last year. They apprised about the improvement in weather and flood forecasting techniques, initiative to update rule curves of Dams in India.

A large area in India is prone to flood in which Ganga and the Brahmaputra are main flood basins and Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are most flood prone states.

The decisions taken in the meeting will go a long way to mitigate the sufferings of the lakhs of people in the country who have to face the fury of floods in terms of damage to their crops, property, livelihood and precious lives.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai, Secretaries of Ministries/ Departments of Home Affairs, Water Resources, Earth Sciences, Member Secretary NDMA, Director Generals of IMD and NDRF, Chairman, CWC and other senior officers of concerned Ministries.

NDW/RK/PK/AD/DDD