

Flood Prone Areas

*354. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered due to floods and droughts in the country at the end of each Five Year Plan;

(b) whether floods and droughts prone areas are increasing at the end of each Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the plan of action to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) Details indicating that the Plan-wise loss suffered due to floods at 1981-82 prices, as reported by the Central Water Commission, are enclosed in the statement. According to the Ministry of Water Resources, the Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) has assessed the flood prone areas of the country as 40 million hectares. The statistics on flood affected areas do not indicate any increase from the above assessment made by the RBA. However, the area affected due to floods depends upon a number of factors such as intensity of rainfall, its distribution in time and space, population density, forest cover, soil and topography of the region etc. Investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the respective State Governments. The Centre renders assistance which is advisory in nature. The Centre also provides financial assistance to carry out important flood management works in the State of Assam and border States of Northern as well as North Eastern India. Central assistance is also being provided to North Bihar for carrying out flood proofing programme.

It has been reported by the Central Water Commission and Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment that no such survey regarding Drought Prone Areas has been carried out. However, according to a study made by Central Water Commission during 1975-82, the area affected by drought in the country is 51.12 million hectares spread over 315 taluks in 74 districts. Efforts are reportedly made under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) to mitigate the adverse effects of drought and prevent any loss to the nation. The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment is implementing DPAP since 1973-74 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The programme is monitored on a regular basis through review meetings with the concerned States. As per information recieved from various states, the estimated value of damage to crops during the last five years is indicated below:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)	
1994-95	8286.00
1995-96	451652.03
1996-97	141055.00
1997-98	44524.95
1998-99	2867.61

Statement*Flood Damage in India During 1953 to 1996*

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Plan Period	Total Damage to Crops, Houses and Public Utilities (1981-82 Prices)
1.	First Plan (1953-56)	1395.90
2.	Second Plan (1956-61)	1525.96
3.	Third Plan (1961-66)	1109.89
4.	Annual Plans (1966-69)	1438.77
5.	Fourth Plan (1969-74)	5344.56
6.	Fifth Plan (1974-78)	4974.88
7.	Annual Plans (1978-80)	3047.68
8.	Sixth Plan (1980-85)	7660.36
9.	Seventh Plan (1985-90)	12410.09
10.	Annual Plans (1990-92)	1678.80
11.	Eighth Plan (1992-97)	2623.66

*[Translation]***Y-2K Problem**

*355. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to solve the problem of Y-2K in computer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of research made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) : (SHRI