

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1582  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000  
FLOOD CONTROL  
BIR SING MAHATO;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether West Bengal is affected by the flood and heavy rains recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether several schemes are being implemented for making river beds deeper and construction/repairing river embankment to control the floods;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government have received any specific report from the Government of West Bengal that several districts viz. Uttar and South Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad face regular flood fury; and
- (f) if so, whether the Union Government have prepared any comprehensive Master Plan to control the flood menace in the State?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SMT. BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) West Bengal faced a very grim flood situation in the districts of Birbhum, Murshidabad, Nadia and 24 Parganas

(North) in Septemeber, 2000. This was due to very heavy rainfall both in quantity and intensity never recorded before. Between 18th to 23rd September, 2000, the total rainfall in Ajoy Basin was 1040 mm, in Mayurakshi Catchment was 1224 mm and in the Damodar Basin 529 mm. The Bhagirathi basin was overflowed as it received discharges from its tributaries many trimes more than its carrying capacity. The embankment of all rivers breached by over-topping. The details of devastation were as under:

i)	Total area affected	:	23971	sq. km.
ii)	Crop area affected	:	19200	sq. km.
iii)	Population affected	:	218	lakhs
iv)	Loss of human lives	:	1320	nos.
v)	No. of missing persons	:	154	nos.
vi)	No. of houses damaged	:	21.94	lakhs
vii)	No. of blocks affected	:	1 17	nos.
viii)	No. of Municipality affected	:	68	

(c) Number of schemes are being taken up by the State Government of West Bengal for construction/repairing of embankments, drainage schemes, resectioning of channels, bank protection works and anti erosion works.

(d) More than 200 nos. of schemes have been undertaken by the State Government pertaining to town protection, construction and maintenance of embankments, anti-erosion works and drainage schemes which are at various stages of completion.

(e) The Union Government have not received any specific report from the State Govt. of West Bengal regarding regular floodfurry in the districts of Uttar and South Dinajpur, Malda and Murshidabad.

However, State Government of West Bengal has informed that the districts of Malda and Murshidabad are frequently ravaged by the floods of the river Ganga and also suffer from severe erosion. The floods in Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur are caused by river Mahananda and its tributaries.

(f) Ganga Flood Control Commission has prepared a comprehensive plan for flood control for the following river basins of West Bengal for evolving a long term strategy to solve the flood problem in the State.

1. Main Ganga.
2. Damodar.
3. Ajoy
4. Rupnarayan.
5. Mahananda.
6. Mayurakshi.