

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:516
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
SOIL EROSION IN COASTAL STATES
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several areas of Coastal States are facing acute water logging and soil erosion problem;
- (b) if so, the details of those areas, State-wise; and
- (c) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the problem?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.516 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.4.2001 REGARDING SOIL EROSION IN COASTAL STATES.

Yes sir, some areas of the maritime States/U.T. of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Pondicherry are facing the problem of water logging and soil erosion. Details of these areas statewise are given in Annex-I.

Flood Control including water logging problem and soil erosion is a State subject. The responsibility of planning, funding and execution of schemes related to these works primarily lies with the concerned State Governments.

However, at the Central level, in so far as the problem of water logging is concerned, the Ministry of Water Resources have taken preventive measures in the form of Command Area Development (CAD) – activities like construction of field channels and field drains, warabandi for equitable distribution of water, land leveling and shaping, adoption of suitable cropping pattern for scientific use of water for its efficient utilization. This would help in promoting the judicious use of water. At places where water logging has already taken place, remedial measures are being taken for which a new component "Reclamation of water logged areas in irrigated commands" has been included under the CAD programme since 01.4.1996. Under this component, 50% central assistance is admissible to state government on matching basis. At present, the norm of central assistance is @ Rs.6000/- per ha. or 50% of the total cost of the reclamation whichever is less.

As regards soil erosion in the coastal States, the following two centrally sponsored schemes have been formulated by the Central Government.

(a) Critical anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States and raising and strengthening of existing embankments along Kosi and Gandak rivers, estimated cost Rs.159.33 crore (Central Share Rs.128.50 crore). This scheme includes West Bengal for providing central assistance for river erosion works. This scheme has been approved by the Government and is in operation.

(b) Critical anti erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga basin states, estimated cost Rs.39.97 crore (Central share Rs.30 crore). This scheme has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee and is awaiting the approval of the Full Planning Commission.

While provision for river erosion in respect of West Bengal is covered under the scheme at Sl. No.(a) above, the provision for sea erosion for all the maritime States/U.T. and river erosion for such states other than West Bengal has been made in the scheme at Sl. No.(b) above.

ANNEX-I

STARRED QUESTION NO.516 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.4.2001 REGARDING SOIL EROSION IN COASTAL STATES.

STATEWISE DETAILS OF WATER LOGGED AREAS AS ASSESSED BY WORKING GROUP (1991) CONSTITUTED BY MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE AREALIABLE TO FLOODS (INCLUDING SOIL EROSION) AS ASSESSED

RASHTRIYA BARH AYOG (1980) IN RESPECT OF MARTTIME STATES/U.T.

S.No.	State/U.T.	Water logged area (M.ha.) (including soil erosion) (M.ha.)	Area liable to floods
1.	West Bengal	-	2.65
2.	Orissa	0.19626	1.40
3.	Andhra Pradesh	0.26640	1.39
4.	Tamil Nadu	0.01619	0.45
5.	Kerala	0.01161	0.87
6.	Karnataka	0.02454	0.02
7.	Goa	-	-
8.	Maharashtra	0.01535	0.23
9.	Gujarat	0.17259	1.39
10.	Pondicherry	-	0.01
	Total	0.70294	8.41