

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5796
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000
SEA EROSION
NITISH SENGUPTA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the continuing phenomenon of erosion by the sea on the coast of West Bengal and the miserable condition of the sea dykes;
- (b) if so, whether the State Government is not paying any attention to the maintenance and strengthening of the sea dykes for the last two decades; and
- (c) whether there are proposals under consideration for strengthening these dykes in consultation with the State Government and the construction of cyclone shelters so as to mitigate possible adverse effect during the coming monsoon months?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of West Bengal has been paying attention for coastal protection works as well as their maintenance. Coastal protection works have been carried out by the State in Digha, district Midnapur and in Sunderbans covering districts of South 24-Parganas North 24-Parganas.

(c) Union Government in consultation with the coastal States has proposed a National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) for protection of vulnerable coastal reaches which includes the proposal of the Government of West Bengal. Revised proposal submitted by Government of West Bengal in April, 2000 for inclusion in NCPP envisages construction/strengthening of 32 km. of bank protection works in the tidal reaches of rivers in South 24- Parganas and North 24-Parganas, 7.70 km. of beach protection works in the district of South 24-Parganas and 1.646 km. of Digha beach protection works in the district of Midnapur. Government of West Bengal have already constructed 118 cyclone/flood shelters spread over in 12 vulnerable districts to mitigate probable adverse effects in the monsoon months. In addition to this 28 shelters are presently under construction by the State Government.