

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2962
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
WORLD BANK AID FOR PROJECTS
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that major support to irrigation and flood management programme in the devastating areas of Assam, Bihar and West Bengal cannot be taken care of without the assistance of the World Bank; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT G GEETE)

(a) & (b) Water being a State subject, irrigation and flood management projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments according to their own priorities and availability of plan allocation. Government of India also provides financial support for certain categories of projects. To bridge the resource gap, Government of India facilitates the State Government in tying up external assistance including that from the World Bank, on the request of State Governments.

The working group on flood control programme for Xth Plan (2002-2007) has recommended that the State Governments should work out the requirement of funds for attending to all the important flood management works during the next 15 to 20 years for river basins which are prone to floods on the basis of Master Plans prepared by them. After that measures to raise the additional resources required for taking up important flood management works from internal and external resources could be considered.