

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1735
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
EROSION AND FLOOD IN BIHAR
Singh Shri Suraj

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that increasing problem of erosion and floods in the country particularly in Bihar is a matter of concern;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any concrete action plan to overcome the situation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Yes Sir. Erosion in the banks / beds of the river and floods is a natural phenomenon, the intensity of which varies from location to location and year to year.

(b) & (c) Flood Management including erosion being a State subject, investigations, planning & implementation of flood management and anti erosion schemes are within the purview of the respective State Governments. The Centre renders assistance that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Ganga & Brahmaputra basins are the severely flood affected regions in the country. The Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) constituted by Government of India in 1972 has prepared comprehensive plans for flood management for all 23 river systems of Ganga basin. Similarly, the Brahmaputra Board constituted in 1982 under an Act of Parliament has also prepared Master Plans for the Brahmaputra & Barak basins and sub basins there under. These plans were sent to the concerned State Governments for follow up action.

The Central Government is also providing financial assistance to the State Governments for taking up critical flood management and anti erosion works. In this connection, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to take up critical anti erosion works in the Ganga Basin States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal with an estimated cost of Rs. 178.85 crore (Central Share Rs. 136.17 crore) is presently under implementation. For taking up Critical Flood Control and Anti Erosion Works in Brahmaputra and Barak valley, a Centrally sponsored Scheme estimated to cost Rs. 166.68 crore (Central Share of Rs. 150 crore) has also been formulated. Brahmaputra Board has also taken up critical anti erosion schemes in Dholla Hathighuli and Majuli Island in Assam. Regarding Bihar, under long term action plan for flood management, Government of India have entered into an agreement with Nepal for investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report of Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage-cum-Diversion Scheme for which an amount of Rs. 29.34 crore has been earmarked.

Further an understanding has also been reached between India & Nepal to extend the existing embankments on Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla & Khando rivers into Nepalese territory upto the non-spilling zone and tie them up with high ground with corresponding strengthening of embankments on the Indian side to prevent flood water from entering the countryside of the existing embankments in Bihar. The works on Nepalese side are funded by Ministry of External Affairs whereas the full cost of the works on the Indian side being executed by Government of Bihar is met by the Ministry of Water Resources.