

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:401

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004

FLOOD CONTROL IN STATES

Singh Shri Sitaram;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether intense flooding in China, Nepal and Bhutan and releasing excess water from dams and reservoirs there inundated all low lying areas in lower Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and North Bihar;
- (b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Governments of Nepal and Bhutan have been requested to extend cooperation in the matter; and
- (d) if so, the details of deliberations held alongwith the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 401 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.08.2004 REGARDING "FLOOD CONTROL IN STATES".

(a) to (d) As per available information, there are no major reservoirs on the rivers originating from China, Nepal & Bhutan and draining into Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and North Bihar. The runoff resulting from precipitation and the snowmelt from upper catchment areas has to flow downstream. Intense rainfall in the catchment areas resulted in high flows in rivers which caused flooding in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and North Bihar. However, during July 2004, the bursting of a natural lake which was formed in September 2003 near village Ladong in Bhutan resulted in rise of water level in river Beki in lower Assam by 20 cm.

As part of long term measures for flood control, agreement has been reached with Nepal and a scheme at a cost of Rs. 29.34 crore has been approved to take up field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) on Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme which interalia will have substantial flood control benefits for North Bihar. The Joint Project Office to take up the above work has been opened in Nepal on 17th August 2004.

Agreement has been reached to take up field investigations and preparation of DPR of 600 MW Burhi Gandaki Hydroelectric Project by an Indian agency on river Burhi Gandak which is a tributary of river Gandak. Discussions are also continuing with Nepal for Kamla & Bagmati Multipurpose Projects on rivers Kamla & Bagmati respectively.

An understanding also exists between India and 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.

As regards Bhutan, the technical delegations of India & Bhutan met in Delhi on 2nd August 2004 and agreed to set up a Joint Group of Experts to discuss and assess the probable causes and effects of recurring floods and erosion in the southern foothills of Bhutan and adjoining plains in India.