

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1676
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
GANGA ACTION PLAN TO CHECK EROSION
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to cover the area between Bangladesh and Katwa in West Bengal under the Ganga Action Plan to check the devastating erosion of Bhagirathi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a)&(b) Ganga Action Plan is a component of National River Conservation Plan under the Ministry of Environment and Forests with the objective of abatement of pollution of rivers. Measures for soil erosion on banks of rivers etc. is not undertaken under this programme.

However, Government of India is rendering financial Assistance to the Government of West Bengal to take up Critical Anti Erosion Works through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Critical Anti Erosion Work in Ganga Basin States", which includes anti-erosion works along river Bhagirathi. An amount of Rs. 51 crore has been earmarked for West Bengal for the years 2004-07 out of which Rs. 15 crore was released during 2004-05.