

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:544

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010

FLOOD IN GANGA BASIN

Mitra Shri Somendra Nath;Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ganga basin States face devastating floods every year;
- (b) if so, the details of flood affected areas in the Ganga basin, State-wise;
- (c) whether constructed and under construction water reservoirs in the upper Gangetic region have large water storage capacity;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the recurring floods in the Gangetic plain alongwith the funds allocated and released therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal in the Ganga basin face devastating floods almost every year.
- (b) The flood prone area in the Ganga basin states as reported by concerned state governments to the Working Group constituted by Planning Commission on Water Resources for 11th Plan is given at Annexure-I.
- (c) & (d) A total live storage capacity of 60.660 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) would be created by all the completed and under construction projects in the Ganga Basin.
- (e) Flood Management being a State subject, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments, as per their own priorities and with own resources/ funds which are made available to them through Planning Commission. In order to provide additional financial support to the State Governments, the Government of India has also been assisting the flood prone States in flood management and anti-erosion works for critical reaches. During XI plan, a state sector scheme namely, "Flood Management Programme (FMP)" at an estimated cost of Rs. 8000 Cr. has been approved 'in principle' by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 02.11.2007 in order to provide financial assistance to the State Governments.

A total of 64 flood control works from the Ganga basin states, namely, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal with a total cost of Rs. 1719.62 crore are being provided central assistance under FMP and the central assistance amounting to Rs. 891.33 crore has been released to Ganga Basin states (including Rs. 44.83 crore for spilled over works of X Plan) during XI Plan.

In addition, grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 171.15 crore has also been provided to the State Governments of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal states under the Central Sector Scheme "River Management Activities and works related to Border Areas" during XI Plan for flood protection works in border areas.

Besides, the Government of India is having continued dialogue with Nepal on matters related to flood forecasting and construction of storage dams to check floods in Indian Territory due to rivers flowing from Nepal.