

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:32
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
FLOOD CONTROL
Ajnala Dr. Rattan Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether non-canalisation of the courses of certain rivers in the country including Ghaggar in Punjab has led to the flooding of large areas;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether certain States including Punjab had sent any proposals concerning flood protection and repair of canals to the Central Water Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the time by which the proposals are likely to be approved?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.32 REGARDING FLOOD CONTROL BY DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA TO BE ANSWERED ON 10-11-2010.

(a) & (b): No Sir, non-canalization cannot be regarded as the only reason for flooding. It also depends on intensity and duration of rainfall, limitations of the natural river course, manmade structures enroute etc. The main reason of flooding in Ghaggar basin is inadequate capacities of various existing cross drainage-works/bridges which are creating afflux in the upstream reaches resulting in breaches in the embankments. As such, while canalization by de-silting, dredging, lining etc. may be helpful in lowering the water levels, there are other factors also which may lead to flooding.

(c): Yes Sir.

(d): During XI Plan, a total of 35 projects were received in Central Water Commission (CWC) under Extension, Renovation and Modernisation (ERM) category. Out of these, 27 projects have been cleared by CWC and 8 projects are under appraisal. Of these 27 cleared projects, 11 projects have been included for funding under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and an amount of Rs. 403.8076 crore has been released. The balance 16 projects are being processed by the State Governments. As regards flood protection projects, 253 projects were received in CWC, out of which, 151 projects have so far been cleared. Out of the remaining projects, CWC has sent comments in respect of 68 projects to the States concerned. 13 projects are under examination of CWC and 21 projects have been returned. Out of 151 cleared projects, 110 projects have so far been included for funding under Flood Management Programme (FMP) during XI Plan and an amount of Rs.337.77 crore has so far been released. This amount excludes projects of the North East which are dealt with by Brahmaputra Board.

(e): Time taken in clearance of projects depends upon time taken by the project authorities in furnishing compliance to the technical observations given by CWC and submission of other mandatory clearances from other agencies viz. the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Ministry of Tribal Affairs etc. as necessary.