

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:52
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011
EROSION OF ARABLE LAND BY FLOODS
Ramkishun Shri

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the flood waters of River Ganga cause erosion of arable land every year in various regions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the allocation made and funds utilised for prevention of erosion by River Ganga in various States;and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to control flood and consequential land erosion?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.52 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.02.2011 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING "EROSION OF ARABLE LAND BY FLOODS" RAISED BY SHRI RAMKISHUN.

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. The arable (cultivable) land located in the flood plains or the land falling in the course of meandering rivers like Ganga are subject to erosion by rivers at various locations during floods every year. The major States affected by land erosion due to river Ganga are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. The schemes for flood and erosion control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments, as per their own priorities, out of their State plan 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 also assists the flood prone States in flood management and anti-erosion works for critical reaches. During XI Plan period, central assistance is being provided to all the flood affected States for river management, flood control and anti- erosion works under a State sector scheme, namely, "Flood Management Programme (FMP)". A total of 81 works on river Ganga and its tributaries from seven Ganga basin States with a total estimated cost of Rs. 3854.91 crore have been included under "FMP" during XI Plan and the central assistance amounting to Rs. 1362.67 crore has been released to the concerned States as on 31.01.2011 as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	State	Schemes Included under FMP		Funds released
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Nos.	Total Cost	Central Share	
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1	Bihar	41	1226.51	919.88	495.98
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2	Haryana	1	173.75	130.31	46.91
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3	Himachal Pradesh	1	34.67	31.20	16.20
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4 Jharkhand 1 20.12 15.09 10.53

5 Uttar Pradesh 21 557.19 417.89 195.37

6 Uttrakhand 5 42.92 36.83 22.48

7 West Bengal 11 1799.75 1349.82 575.20

Total 81 3854.91 2901.02 1362.67

In addition, the Government of India set up Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) in 1972 for preparation of comprehensive master plans for flood control measures in the Ganga basin States. Detailed Comprehensive Master Plans for all the 23 river systems constituting the Ganga basin had been prepared by GFCC and circulated to the concerned State Governments for implementation.

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