

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:271
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012
SHALLOW RIVER BEDS
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the river beds of most of the rivers in the country especially in Bihar are getting shallow day-by-day as a result of which they easily get flooded and cause loss of life and property during rains;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take some measures to make the river beds of the rivers deeper;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(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.271 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.8.2012 REGARDING "SHALLOW RIVER BEDS" RAISED BY DR. SANJAY JAISWAL.

(a) No Madam, the States in general have not reported about river beds of most of the rivers getting shallow day by day. However, some States including Bihar have reported problems of siltation and aggradation of beds of some rivers as cause of floods resulting in loss of life and property.

(b) The subject of flood management falls within the purview of the States. Accordingly, the schemes of flood management including desilting of rivers etc. are planned, investigated, formulated and executed by the concerned State Government as per priority within the State. The role of Union Government is technical, advisory, catalytic and promotional in nature. No techno-economically viable project for desilting of rivers has been received from States including Bihar.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per the studies on the subject, large scale desilting in general, is not recommended as the same is not techno-economically viable due to associated problems of disposal of excavated earth, high cost and sustainability of measures adopted.