

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3255
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012
REPAIRING OF DAMAGED RIVER EMBANKMENTS
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the river embankments/barrage constructed in the State of West Bengal are in a deplorable condition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government would chalk out a concrete plan for repairing these embankments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) The State Governments maintain the embankments constructed in the States. The Union Government only supplements the efforts made by the State Governments by providing technical inputs of advisory nature and financial assistance of promotional nature in order to enable the State Governments in management of critical embankments. However , as regards Farakka Barrage project (FBP) which is under the Central Government, the afflux bunds of 58.15 km at Farakka & Jangipur , marginal embankments of 11 km upstream of Farakka barrage and circuit embankment of 28.415 km at Bhutni Diara, which were constructed during 1964-75 by FBP are very old and needs large repairs.

(c)&(d) During XI Plan, the Government of India launched a Flood Management Programme for providing central assistance to the State Governments including Government of West Bengal for works related to river management etc. including raising and strengthening of existing embankments and restoration of earlier damaged flood management works. Under this programme, a total of six projects of West Bengal with an estimated cost of Rs.48.09 crore for raising and strengthening/restoration of damaged embankments were approved and the central assistance of Rs.26.72 crore was released during XI Plan up to 31st March, 2012. In respect of Farakka Barrage project, the project authority has also incurred an expenditure of 0.76 crore on Repair and maintenance of these embankments of FBP during XI plan. Provision for Repair and maintenance of these embankments/bunds of FBP have been kept in XII plan, out of which repair of left afflux bunds of Farrakka and Jangipur barrages and construction of retired embankment in a length of 2000m has been completed by FBP during 2012. Repair and maintenance of these embankments/ bunds of FBP is continuous process and are taken up based on safety requirements and recommendation of Technical Advisory Committee of FBP .

(e) Does not arise.