

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:144

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015

FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

Rao (Avnithi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa;Singh Shri Parvesh Sahib

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the flood prone areas identified, the financial/ human loss suffered during the last three years and the Central assistance provided to the States for works related to flood management, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the reasons for floods in various parts of the country and if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan for the management and control of floods and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to revise guidelines for providing Central assistance to flood affected States and if so, the details and the status thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(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. 144 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 05.03.2015 REGARDING "FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL".

(a) The XII Plan Working Group on Flood Management and Region Specific Issues set up by the erstwhile Planning commission had assessed the maximum flood affected area in the country as 49.815 million hectare (mha). The State-wise details of financial/ human loss during the last three years and the central assistance provided by Government of India to States in XI and XII Plans (till date) are given in Annex-1 and Annex-2 respectively.

(b)to(d) The Government of India set up various Expert Committees / Task Forces/ Commissions/ Working Groups from time to time which had studied the causes of flood problems and recommended suitable flood management mea- sures for implementation by the State Governments.

The main reasons of floods have been assessed as high intensity rainfall in short duration, poor or inadequate drainage capacity of river, unplanned reservoir regula- tion and failure of flood control structures.

The Government of India has been making continuous efforts to assist the State Governments in effective flood mana- gement and it had taken the following important actions:

(i) Various Expert Committees / Task Forces/ Commissions were set up from time to time which studied the flood problems and recommended suitable flood management mea- sures for implementation by the State Governments.

(ii) Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) was set up in 1976 which submitted its report in 1980 recommending various mea- sures of flood control. The Task Force-2004 on Flood Management / Erosion Control, set up in August, 2004, submitted its Report in December, 2004 recommending immediate, short term and long term measures for flood management and erosion control in the States of Assam & neighbouring NE states, Bihar , West Bengal, Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(iii) Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) was set up at Patna in 1972 to address the flood and erosion pro- blems of Ganga basin States. It had prepared 23 comp- rehensive master plans for all the Ganga Basin States and circulated them to concerned States for implemen- tation.

(iv) Brahmaputra Board was set up in 1980 to address the flood erosion problems in the NE states including North Bengal and Sikkim. It had prepared 57 master plans and circulated them to concerned States for implementation.

(v) CWC issues Flood forecasts at 175 stations (28 Inflow Forecast Stations + 147 Level Forecast Stations). Annually, about 6000 flood forecasts are issued by CWC during floods. The level forecasts help the user agen- cies in deciding mitigating measures like evacuation of people and shifting people and their movable pro- perty to safer locations. The Inflow Forecasting is used by various

dam authorities in optimum operation of reservoirs for safe passage of flood downstream as well as to ensure adequate storage in the reservoirs for meeting demand during non-monsoon period.

(vi) The Government of India is having continuous dialogue with upper riparian countries viz. Nepal and China on flood management aspects in India besides other issues related to water resources.

(vi) In addition to above, the Government of India had launched a Flood Management Programme in XI Plan and provided central assistance to States for works related to flood control, river management, drainage development, flood proofing and anti-sea erosion works in critical areas. In October, 2013, the Cabinet approved continuation of FMP during XII Plan with an outlay of Rs, 10,000 crore expanding the scope to cover the works of catchment area treatment. Under the above Programme, the central assistance of Rs. 4419.81 crore has been provided to various States till date.