

[English]

But here, there should be no language controversy.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : We are not raising any controversy. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sathiamoorthy, please take your seat.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE . There is an arrangement for interpretation. If you want to ask questions in Tamil and if you inform the Chair, there is an arrangement. All the languages are our national languages.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we agree with the hon. Prime Minister that the House should not be divided on this issue. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Now the Minister may respond.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question remains unanswered *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Your question has been answered.

Flood Control

*203. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to various states for irrigation and flood-control projects during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the impact created by the measures taken in respect of irrigation and flood control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The State-wise approved outlays for irrigation and flood control for the last three years, namely 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in Annexures I, II and III respectively

(b) By various measures taken through major, medium and minor projects, the country has created an irrigation potential of 89.4 million hectares (provisional) at the end of Eighth Plan period against the ultimate irrigation potential of 113.5 million hectares.

Various flood management measures undertaken through embankments, drainage channels, town and village protection works have provided reasonable degree of protection to an area of 14.374 million hectares out of a total flood prone area of 40 million hectares.

Annexure I

Revised Approved Outlays in respect of Major/Medium Irrigation, Minor Irrigation, C.A.D. and Flood Control for the year 1995-96

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	States/U.Ts.	Major & Medium	Minor	CAD	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	609.67	70.00	8.00	30.00	717.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	15.95	0.46	3.22	20.13
3.	Assam	25.78	42.64	5.28	22.97	96.67
4.	Bihar	182.74	24.83	10.54	35.15	253.26
5.	Goa	30.28	4.00	0.90	0.30	35.48

* Not Recorded.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Gujarat	636.53	101.85	9.25	1.60	749.23
7.	Haryana	114.33	40.51	13.90	10.00	178.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.06	25.77	1.00	2.04	31.87
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.32	24.02	2.60	13.71	60.65
10.	Karnataka	650.50	56.19	8.69	9.72	725.10
11.	Kerala	113.00	34.00	12.00	21.00	180.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	298.26	127.38	10.49	1.00	437.13
13.	Maharashtra	635.93	299.68	100.57	0.55	1036.73
14.	Manipur	35.96	6.52	1.40	5.01	48.89
15.	Meghalaya	1.85	6.30	0.25	1.60	10.00
16.	Mizoram	0.02	2.40	0.05	NIL	2.47
17.	Nagaland	0.80	2.55	NIL	0.20	3.55
18.	Orissa	213.09	89.00	3.70	8.80	314.59
19.	Punjab	73.90	33.99	37.00	31.29	176.18
20.	Rajasthan	298.70	50.85	87.91	22.41	459.87
21.	Sikkim	NIL	2.56	0.06	0.34	2.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	76.23	29.62	11.56	3.49	120.90
23.	Tripura	5.49	4.46	0.02	2.04	12.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	337.01	58.07	22.67	10.73	428.48
25.	West Bengal	105.00	15.00	2.00	43.00	165.00
Total (States)		4468.95	1168.14	350.30	280.17	6267.56
26.	A&N Island	NIL	1.41	NIL	0.71	2.12
27.	D&N Haveli	0.50	1.05	0.01	NIL	1.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28.	Chandigarh	NIL	0.20	NIL	NIL	0.20
29.	Delhi	NIL	2.52	NIL	14.15	16.67
30.	Daman & Diu	0.55	0.12	NIL	0.35	1.02
31.	Lakshadweep	NIL	NIL	NIL	1.85	1.85
32.	Pondicherry	NIL	2.83	NIL	3.50	6.33
Total (U.Ts.)		1.05	8.13	0.01	20.56	29.75
Total (States + U.Ts.)		4470.00	1176.27	350.31	300.73	6297.31

Annexure II

Revised Approved Outlays in respect of Major/Medium Irrigation, Minor Irrigation, C.A.D. and Flood Control for the year 1996-97

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	States/U.Ts.	Major & Medium	Minor	CAD	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	651.88	122.76	13.00	22.00	809.64
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.00	16.92	1.94	3.85	22.81
3.	Assam	23.50	76.10	2.78	19.92	122.30
4.	Bihar	328.14	84.63	11.23	36.35	460.40
5.	Goa	45.50	4.00	0.90	0.80	51.20
6.	Gujarat	1089.03	133.00	9.25	1.60	1232.88
7.	Haryana	271.23	56.43	13.90	11.00	352.56
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.22	31.40	1.10	3.70	39.42
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	21.52	22.90	2.98	14.62	62.02
10.	Karnataka	1035.00	90.82	33.00	10.00	1168.82
11.	Kerala	130.00	45.35	12.00	35.50	222.85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	318.10	122.46	4.99	1.00	446.55
13.	Maharashtra	679.53	371.03	112.80	1.27	1164.63
14.	Manipur	32.21	6.21	1.32	6.96	46.70
15.	Meghalaya	3.00	7.80	0.70	4.43	15.93
16.	Mizoram	0.05	2.80	0.05	—	2.90
17.	Nagaland	0.75	2.55	0.19	0.19	3.68
18.	Orissa	338.00	100.58	4.00	10.00	452.58
19.	Punjab	76.52	33.70	37.00	23.90	171.12
20.	Rajasthan	301.65	42.81	98.60	11.35	454.41
21.	Sikkim	—	2.56	0.06	0.34	2.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	186.16	62.41	12.32	1.59	262.48
23.	Tripura	5.49	11.46	0.02	2.04	19.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	470.01	109.22	30.00	16.70	625.93
25.	West Bengal	124.00	65.33	1.50	66.35	257.18
Total (States)		6135.49	1625.23	404.78	305.46	8470.96
26.	A&N Island	0.00	1.68	0.00	1.60	3.28
27.	D&N Havell	0.90	1.05	0.01	0.00	1.96
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
29.	Delhi	0.00	2.70	0.00	24.00	26.70
30.	Daman & Diu	0.55	0.12	0.00	0.35	1.02
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.86	1.86
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	2.81	0.00	3.50	6.31
Total (U.Ts.)		1.45	8.56	0.01	31.31	41.33
Total (States + U.Ts.)		6136.94	1633.79	404.79	336.77	8512.29

Annexure-III

*Revised Approved Outlays in respect of Major/Medium Irrigation, Minor Irrigation,
C.A.D. and Flood Control for the year 1997-98*

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	States/U.Ts.	Major & Medium	Minor	CAD	Flood Control	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	712.67	115.12	10.20	17.00	854.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.49	27.18	1.21	4.48	33.36
3.	Assam	21.46	83.12	3.19	19.92	127.69
4.	Bihar	366.23	65.91	11.30	40.00	483.44
5.	Goa	35.80	3.55	0.95	0.84	41.14
6.	Gujarat	1186.13	171.37	10.00	5.00	1372.50
7.	Haryana	329.69	60.93	15.00	12.10	417.72
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	35.09	1.20	3.90	50.19
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	39.60	39.58	3.54	15.90	98.62
10.	Karnataka	1023.44	85.14	19.93	7.47	1135.98
11.	Kerala	148.10	46.55	12.00	25.50	232.15
12.	Madhya Pradesh	262.61	162.45	5.00	1.00	431.06
13.	Maharashtra	2245.02	401.15	80.67	6.37	2733.21
14.	Manipur	50.00	7.00	1.60	7.10	65.70
15.	Meghalaya	1.50	8.00	0.70	2.00	12.20
16.	Mizoram	0.05	2.80	0.05	0.00	2.90
17.	Nagaland	0.80	2.73	0.20	0.20	3.93
18.	Orissa	586.00	71.40	4.00	5.00	666.40
19.	Punjab	76.98	34.55	50.43	70.00	231.96
20.	Rajasthan	374.19	43.08	98.18	7.82	523.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Sikkim	0.00	2.56	0.06	0.34	2.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	257.55	63.36	12.75	2.03	335.69
23.	Tripura	6.98	23.32	0.02	4.64	34.96
24.	Uttar Pradesh	470.00	112.86	25.00	18.15	626.01
25.	West Bengal	155.00	76.65	3.00	70.23	304.88
Total (States)		8360.29	1745.45	370.16	348.99	10822.89
26.	A&N Island	0.00	1.89	0.00	1.61	3.50
27.	D&N Haveli	1.32	1.12	0.01	0.00	2.45
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
29.	Delhi	0.00	1.00	0.00	11.00	12.00
30.	Daman & Diu	0.20	0.17	0.06	0.23	0.66
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.12	2.12
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	2.81	0.00	3.00	5.81
Total (U.Ts.)		1.52	7.24	0.07	17.96	26.79
Total (States + U.Ts.)		8361.81	1752.69	370.23	364.95	10849.68

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the details regarding the number of flood control and irrigation projects lying pending especially the ones relating to Uttar Pradesh alongwith the reasons therefor? Have any funds been received from the World Bank for the funding of these projects? If so, when was it received and how much of it has been utilised?

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have any details regarding the amount received from the World Bank for flood Control. If any such amount has been received, the details will be sent to the Hon'ble Member.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer to my question is incomplete. Perhaps it has not been heard carefully. I had enquired about the number

of projects lying pending, especially those pertaining to Uttar Pradesh and I also wanted to know as to whether any funds have been received from the World Bank for the funding of both the irrigation and flood control projects or not?

SHRI SOMPAL : The details regarding the number of projects lying pending and the amount of financial assistance received from the World Bank will be communicated to Hon'ble Member.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the figures given, Uttar Pradesh was given Rs. 428 crore in 1995-96; Rs. 625 crore in 1996-97 and Rs. 626 crore only in 1997-98 which means that there has been a difference of mere eight lakh rupees over last year's amount. I would like to know the reasons for such

a sharp decline in the grant and also whether the Government propose to provide funds for the projects lying pending in Uttar Pradesh or not?

SHRI SOMPAL : The budget allocations are made after consulting the Planning Commission and the State governments. An amount of Rs. 626 crore was proposed to be provided and the same has been given to Uttar Pradesh. The details regarding reasons for arriving at this particular amount might certainly be there in the minutes of the meeting of Planning Commission, however we have no such information at all. This allocation was made after consulting Planning Commission and the State Government and this amount was found appropriate.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Prime Minister the details regarding the amount of money given to Rajasthan for Ghaggar flood control and the impact thereof? How the diversions were made by Ghaggar Control Board; how much land was waterlogged after discharging water into the depressions and what was its impact in other areas? Lakhs of acres of land was waterlogged. Ten to twenty villages were affected and thousands of people became shelterless. The Government propose to release more water in depression area Nos. 16 and 18 but according to the report of the National Water Commission, if such a thing is done, the town of Suratgarh will be submerged in four and a half years' time. Does anyone look into these aspects or not before taking such a decision? Then there is an important issue regarding canal as to how the Rajasthan Canal is proposed to be modernised and whether the command area has been developed or not? First the development of command area has to be undertaken and then only canal can be constructed. What steps are proposed to be taken to prevent that loss?

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, an amount of Rs. 11.35 crore in 1996-97 and Rs. 7.82 crore in 1997-98 has been provided to Rajasthan for flood control. So far as the issue of flooding of Ghaggar is concerned, I am very much aware of this problem and I have personally visited the affected area. A terrible situation has been created there. Lakhs of hectares of land has been flooded as this area has a number of natural ditches and depressions. Earlier the flood water used to diverted towards Pakistan but now Pakistan has constructed some dam in its area, due to which highly fertile land giving a high agricultural yield has been waterlogged. This issue has been considered many a times. However, the problem is that the study groups have been sent from the Centre and the plans have been chalked out but the demand has not been put forth by the Government of Rajasthan for launching this project in the manner desired. Whenever a demand has been made, required amount has been made available. However it has not been possible to tackle the problem completely with this much amount.
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Under the Indus water treaty, they cannot block the flow of natural water in their area. This is totally wrong and I object to it.

SHRI SOMPAL : That is a separate issue and your point has been noted. It will be looked into.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply to the question put by the members regarding flood control and irrigation projects that the details are being collected and he has got no information. I would like to know about the provisions made for Uttar Pradesh under this scheme? I would like to draw your attention towards Allahabad—the Sangam of Ganga and Yamuna rivers. Heavy erosion takes place there during flood. Have any measures been taken to stop this erosion? Does the Government have any scheme to relocate the poor people living near the rivers?

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, an amount of Rs. 16.7 crore in 1996-97 and Rs. 18.15 crore in 1997-98 has been given to Uttar Pradesh for flood control. As for the question raised regarding Allahabad, Hon'ble Member is raising a matter regarding a particular place and the relevant information can be sought from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. I do not have any information in this regard at the moment. As regards the issue of making arrangements for people who are living quite close to such rivers as are flooded during the rains, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to raise the height of embankment, issue warning prior to flood and extend help after the floods. This information is available with the State governments. If they feel that the grant given by the Central Government is insufficient, they can get it increased after discussing the matter.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : The river Brahmaputra is dotted with innumerable breaches and erosion points, but the allocation for anti-erosion measures during the last three years are too little. A project called Hatiaal-Dainigaon-Neamati, an anti-erosion project of Jorhat, costing Rs. 32 crore was approved by the Ministry of Water Resources in 1995. Since winter is the only construction season in Assam, rupees one crore were released immediately by the Planning Commission. Then, it was included in the State Plan. But the Government of Assam was assured that it would be included in the Central plan. However, during the last two and a half years, it has not been included in the Central Plan and the work is not in progress. The river threatens a premier town of Assam, Jorhat, at a distance of 5 kms., as the crow flies.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether this project would be included in the Central Plan with immediate effect so that about hundred villages and a

premier town of Assam could be protected from the fury of the Brahmaputra river.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA : Sir, I appreciate the question. Please tell us about Guwahati also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, please.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL : This question pertains to a special project and the relevant information is not immediately available with me. However the suggestion made by Hon'ble Member has been noted and it will be considered.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Sir, would you include it in the Central Plan? ...*(Interruptions)*. It is because the resources of the State are too meagre.

SHRI SOMPAL : I have said that it has been noted and it will be considered.

SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN : Sir, I never get a chance. I cannot shout at this.

MR. SPEAKER : You will get a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a huge loss is incurred every year due to floods. Hon'ble Minister might have tried to find out the reasons for occurrence of floods. Silt has accumulated at the riverbeds, thereby raising its level and that is why even slightly excess water inundates the villages. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether he proposes to formulate a programme for desilting of rivers? This is not an issue pertaining to a particular State because a single river passes through a number of states. The level of riverbeds is going up and that is why, floods are creating such a havoc. Will the Union Government formulate a scheme in consultation with the State Governments for the desilting of rivers and construction of dams and roads?

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a number of measures are being taken for flood control. Such floods occur when either the heavy flow of river water causes breaches in its banks or due to heavy rains in the catchment area or due to the excessive rain in the local areas floods are caused or when the tidal waves and rains co-occur such a situation is created. One of the measures for flood control is to construct the dams on the rivers. Such dams are there in Delhi and U.P. also. It is proposed to elevate the level of villages and the same has already been done for thousands of villages.

These measures are included in flood control drive. So far as the question of rivers becoming shallow due to the accumulation of silt is concerned there is no plan for dredging operation and desilting at present. No research has been conducted till date on the economic and technical feasibility of this aspect. My personal view is that this kind of plan will not be practical within the resources of our country. However, the Ministry can consider to conduct studies on this subject.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Sir, the river Damodar is known as Whang Ho of West Bengal because every year the floods from Damodar cause serious problems for the people of West Bengal. When the original DVC plan was formulated, the proposal was to construct four reservoirs but only two reservoirs were completed. Because of that, whenever there is excess rain and the two reservoirs are full, the excess water is released and Bengal is flooded every year. So, if all the four reservoirs are constructed, the extra water can be preserved there and that water can be used for irrigation purpose whenever there is a drought. But now on both the counts we are suffering. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the DVC plan will be reviewed and the other two reservoirs which were originally contemplated will be constructed?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Hannan Mollah, this question relates to flood control.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Yes, Sir, it is because of floods in Damodar that West Bengal is suffering.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your Supplementary.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I am asking my Supplementary, Sir, I would like to know whether the other two reservoirs will be constructed by the Government and the Lower Damodar Channel be completed within the shortest possible period.

SHRI SOMPAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is again a project-specific question, the details of which are not known immediately.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, there is a question pertaining to the same Supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Anil Basu, not like this.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Tilaiya, Panchet, Maithon and Koria are the four barrages in the catchment area of DVC ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu, not like this.

SHRI ANIL BASU : But unfortunately those were constructed in 1960 and a lot of siltation has taken place since then, thereby reducing the capacity of the barrages.

Would the hon. Minister consider de-siltation of these barrages of DVC which is under the control of CWC which, in turn, is under the control of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Government of India.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Sone Canal

*204. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the present irrigation system in each State:

(b) if so, the present position with regard to irrigation in each State:

(c) whether the proposal for modernisation of Sone Canal in Bihar is pending with the Union Government for years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to take decision on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

State-wise position of approximate irrigation potential created and utilised through major, medium and minor irrigation schemes upto March, 1997 is enclosed as Annexure.

Sone Canal Modernisation Project Phase-I (Bihar) was considered acceptable by the Technical Advisory Committee in its 56th meeting held on 10.11.93 and was recommended for investment clearance subject to arranging concurrence of State Finance Department and environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have since accorded clearance to the project on 4th June, 1998.

Annexure

(In thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Potential created			Potential utilised		
		Major & Medium	Minor	Total	Major & Medium	Minor	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	A. P.	3047.10	2901.87	5948.97	2883.80	2687.16	5570.96
2.	Ar. Pradesh	0.00	83.42	83.42	0.00	65.54	65.54
3.	Assam	196.67	592.76	789.43	138.17	484.45	622.62
4.	Bihar	2802.50	5108.24	7910.74	2324.20	4573.70	6897.90
5.	Goa	13.02	20.52	33.54	12.07	17.77	29.84
6.	Gujarat	1350.00	1935.30	3285.30	1200.00	1839.62	3039.62
7.	Haryana	2078.79	1576.77	3655.56	1833.62	1531.62	3365.24
8.	H.P.	10.55	150.38	160.93	5.59	128.42	134.01
9.	J & K	173.70	378.68	552.38	147.57	384.84	512.21
10.	Karnataka	1666.02	1531.01	3197.03	1471.70	1488.71	2960.41