

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 09.07.2009
ANSWERED ON
KOSI EMBANKMENT .

695

SHRI N.K. SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government is aware that nine months after a massive breach in the Kosi embankment triggered catastrophic floods in North Bihar there is danger of repeat in breach of embankment;
- (b) if so, whether due to persistent rains in Nepal, the coffer dams have been washed away;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to carry out repairs and maintenance of Kosi embankment and to help State Government to face the situation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (d) The breached section of the eastern afflux bund of Kosi Barrage at Kusaha (Nepal) which was washed away on 18.08.2008 has been completely repaired by the state Government of Bihar on 31st May, 2009. In addition, the flood protection works for strengthening of eastern afflux bund recommended by Kosi High Level Committee have also been completed by Government of Bihar. The coffer dams were constructed to facilitate the breach closure work, have served its purpose and there is no problem even if these are washed away now as these are not the flood protection works of permanent nature. For reconstruction of the breached section of eastern afflux bund, the State Government of Bihar submitted a scheme amounting to Rs.143.42 crore, which was approved by the Government of India and an amount of Rs. 69.90 crore was released to the State Government during 2008-09. The remaining amount would be released on receipt of final bills.