

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 18.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
CHANGE OF COURSE BY NER RIVERS .

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Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :-

- (a) the details of rivers in the North Eastern Region showing change of course as revealed from Remote Sensing and other sources of data;
- (b) the action plan contemplated for taming of such rivers including de-siltation, dredging and erosion control measures along with prevention of sandy deposition; and
- (c) implementation status of flood and river management by Brahmaputra Board as mandated?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) Remote Sensing Data and other sources of information has revealed that there have been changes in the river courses of river Puthimari/ Barnadi at Nagrijuli, river Jiadhah at Dhemaji, river Lohit at Dholla and river Dibang at Bahbari in North Eastern Region.

(b) The Action taken/ contemplated for taming of these rivers is as below: A scheme namely protection of Nagrijuli Rangia Town and Mukalmuwa/ Barbhag area from flood anti-erosion of Barnadi river was taken up by Brahmaputra Board for carrying out anti-erosion measures. The scheme has been completed and the river has since been flowing along its original course. The Water Resources Department of Government of Assam has taken up the schemes to tame the Jiadhah river along its defined course. The Brahmaputra Board has taken up the execution of comprehensive schemes to divert back the avulsed flow of river Dibang and Lohit on their original courses. As a result of the works executed so far, river Dibang is now flowing along its original course.

(c) Implementation status of flood and river management by Brahmaputra Board as mandated is given below:

1. Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dholla Hathiguli: In order to bring the Lohit and Dibang rivers to their original courses, the works were taken up by Brahmaputra Board in phases in 2003-04. These phases of works viz. Phase-I (₹ 10.47 crores), Phase-II (₹ 4.95 crores) and Phase-III (₹ 8.47 crores) were completed by 2007-08. The Phase-IV works (₹ 53.11 crores) are under progress and 38.8% of works have been completed.

2. Protection of Majuli Island: The Brahmaputra Board has taken up anti-erosion works at Majuli Island in the year 2003-04 as immediate measures at an estimated cost of ₹ 5.92 crores and completed the same in 2004-05. These works were followed by regular protection works under Phase-I and 97.1% of works have been completed (estimated cost ₹ 56.07 crores). The Brahmaputra Board also executed emergent works (₹ 4.99 crores) for protection of Majuli Island on the recommendations of Standing Committee of Experts in 2008. The Board is presently executing the Phase-II and Phase-III works (₹ 115.03 crores) combined together and 18.28% of the works have been completed.

3. Protection of Nagrijuli Rangia Town and Mukalmuwa/Barbhag area from flood and erosion of Puthimari/ Barnadi river (₹ 4.89 crores): The works proposed in approved scheme were completed in 2008-09.

4. Anti erosion works for protection of Kushiabil and Durgajan village (₹ 2.64 crores) from river Dhansiri (South) at Dimapur in Nagaland: The works have been completed during 2007-08.

5. Drainage Development Schemes (DDS) : The Brahmaputra Board has taken up execution of seven

numbers of Drainage Development Schemes (DDS) viz. Harang (₹ 30.49 crores), Barbhag (₹ 7.23 crores), Amjur (₹ 18.84 crores), Jengrai (₹ 1.49 crores), Jakaichuk (₹ 2.96 crores), East of Barpeta (₹ 1.34 crores) and Singla (₹ 3.54 crores). The progress made on execution of these schemes is 97.5%, 28%, 15%, 27%, 40%, 41.6% and 3% respectively. 6. Brahmaputra Board is a nodal organization for recommending and monitoring the schemes of North-eastern States assisted by Government of India under Flood Management Programme. A total of 160 Flood Management and Anti Erosion works with a total cost of ₹ 1130.74 crores from North Eastern Region including Sikkim are included for Central assistance under Flood Management Programme. Central assistance amounting to ₹ 461.42 crores was released to the North Eastern Region including Sikkim as on 31st October, 2010 during the XI Plan.