

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES,
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1317
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2017

EROSION BY RIVERS

1317. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the miseries faced by the people due to river erosion in the country including West Bengal, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has consulted the State to identify the areas of specific and most immediate concern and intends to initiate a joint effort in resolving the issue, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of certain reports citing large scale erosion and loss of fertile land affecting several villages in the State including Malda region, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (d) whether any special funds have been allocated to carry out disbursement of compensation to the villagers, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Erosion and deposition of silt is a dynamic and natural process in alluvial rivers. Rivers carry, pick up and drop silt load as per their regime conditions i.e. discharge in the river, river slope, morphology, nature of silt etc. The National Water Policy (2012), formulated by this Ministry has, inter-alia, recommended that in order to prevent loss of land eroded by river which causes permanent loss, revetments, spurs, embankments etc, should be planned, executed, monitored and maintained on the basis of morphological studies.

The schemes for anti-erosion works etc. are formulated and implemented by the concerned States as per their priority. The Union Government supports the efforts of the States by providing technical advice and also promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas.

The Government of India had launched Flood Management Programme (FMP) for providing central assistance to States for works related to river management, flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, flood proofing works, restoration of damage flood management works etc. A total central assistance of Rs 4873.07 crore has been released to various States under FMP which includes Rs. 802.01 crore to State of West Bengal. The Central Government engages with the State Governments, as required.

(c) Farakka Barrage Project (FBP) authority has been mandated for taking up anti-erosion/bank protection works on river Ganga in West Bengal region in a total length of 120 km (40 km upstream and 80 km downstream of FBP) to ensure safety of "Farakka Barrage Project". During the current five year plan, FBP authority has executed anti-erosion/ bank protection works on river Ganga amounting to Rs. 131.00 crore, particularly in Maida and Murshidabad Districts which has provided reasonable degree of protection from floods and erosion.

A proposal on "Bank protection works on the left bank of river Ganga at village Janjalitola under Mauja Gadai Maharajpur in block Tatua-IPS- Ratua, District Maida has been received in Ganga Flood Control Commission..

(d) No, Madam.
