

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1906
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27.07.2017

DEVELOPMENT OF CRACKS ON GROUND

1906. SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about incidents of long widespread cracks developed on the ground in various parts of North India including Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted any study and submitted report in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is urgent need for taking long term necessary corrective measures to avoid any major disaster in future; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): Yes, Geological Survey of India [GSI] is aware about incidences of ground cracks/fissures in various parts of North India including Bundelkhand regions of Uttar Pradesh [UP]. Such ground cracks reported by the district authorities are studied by expert teams of the GSI and reports with suggested mitigation measures are submitted to the concerned district authorities.

(b): GSI, on request of District Magistrate, Hamirpur, UP, had conducted a multidisciplinary study in 2007 to evaluate the causes of the ground cracks developed up to 6 meters depth and 50 meters length in Hamirpur district of Bundelkhand Region. These ground cracks/fissures developed close to small streams or nalas just after first monsoon heavy rain in the area. It is a general underground water phenomena during heavy rain after long dry spell, particularly in loose, sandy soil/alluvium regions like Bundelkhand. The report was submitted to the District Authority, Hamirpur, UP.

Further, in 2008-2009, similar ground cracks were reported and investigated in Banda, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Etawah and Jalaun districts, UP. GSI had carried out geological studies of these cracks and submitted the reports to the district authority and UP Government.

(c) & (d): In view of the sporadic and localized nature of the reported cracks, no long term necessary corrective measures as such are possible. Generally, it is a natural, local subsidence phenomena during first spell of heavy rain after a long dry period, with a lowered ground water table, in sandy soil of the Gangetic Plain.
