

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1276

ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

FLOODS IN WEST BENGAL

1276. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of overflowing of the Silaboti river in the Ghatal subdivision of West Bengal and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received a report from the Government of West Bengal to prevent such flooding therein and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to conduct consultations with the local stakeholders to solve the flooding and soil erosion of Silaboti river; and
- (d) the timeframe to solve the annual flooding and consequent soil erosion of Silaboti river?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Flood management, including erosion control, falls within the purview of the States. Flood management and anti-erosion schemes are formulated and implemented by concerned State Governments as per their priority. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing technical guidance and promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas. The State Government of West Bengal has formulated a comprehensive flood management project named “Ghatal Master Plan” for addressing the issue of flooding caused by various rivers, including river Silabati in Ghatal sub-division.

(b) A flood management project of West Bengal, namely, Phase-I works of Ghatal Master Plan in Paschim Midinapur and Purba Midinapur Districts of West Bengal was considered by Advisory Committee of Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR) under Ministry of Jal Shakti in 136th meeting held on 6th June, 2018 and accepted for its techno-economic viability at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,238.95 crore (price level 2017). Subsequently, based on recommendations of Investment Clearance Committee of DoWR, RD & GR in its 17th meeting held on 10.06.2022, the project has been accorded investment clearance. No funds have been provided by the Central Government as the project has not been included for funding under any scheme of Ministry of Jal Shakti.

(c) State Government of West Bengal has informed that consultations with the local stakeholders on the issue of flooding of river Silabati have been held on several occasions, the latest being in August, 2021.

(d) As per the Detailed Project Report, the time period of execution of 'Ghatal Master Plan' to address the flooding of river Silabati is three years.
