

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 126**

ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

**CHALLENGES OF RIVER EROSION**

126. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the challenges due to river erosion in Assam, West Bengal and Bihar;
- (b) if so, the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to consider Integrated River Erosion Scheme to control erosion of Aye and Mansa rivers in Bongaigaon and Chirang district of Assam respectively and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) & (b)** Erosion, movement and deposition of sediment in a river are natural regulating functions of a river. Rivers tend to maintain a balance between the silt load carried & silt load deposited, maintaining a river regime. Soil erosion caused by heavy floods is a matter of concern as it leads to several associated problems like changes in river course, causing loss of land, etc. 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 also promotional financial assistance for management of floods in critical areas. The Government of India has been making continuous efforts to assist the State Governments in effective flood management and erosion control. Morphological Studies by various IIT and NIIT have been carried out for major rivers like Brahmaputra, Ganga, Sharda, Rapti, Subansari, Krishna, Tungbhadra, Mahanadi, Mahananda, etc. These Studies play an important role in knowing the nature of rivers in a comprehensive manner and provide assessment of decadal bank-line movement, erosion & deposition in different reaches in respect of base year, derivation of reach-wise morphological indices and identification of critical reaches. So far, morphological studies of 15 major rivers have been carried out by CWC using remote sensing technique through various academic/research institutes. These studies have been shared with concerned State Govts and other stakeholders etc. for taking informed decision and future planning.

**(c)** A project named “Protection of village Domgaon, Dababeel, Chotonilibari, Debargaon, Dangaigaon, Birengaon, Bherbheri, Rowmari, Khagrabari, Sanyashibari, UttarPopragaon and Popragaon from the erosion of river Aie” with an estimated cost of Rs. 125.21 Crores has been included for central funding under Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP) of Ministry of Jal Shakti. Another project named “Integrated Flood and erosion management of Manas and Beki river in the district of Baksa and Barpeta in Brahmaputra valley within Assam” (proposed under Assam Integrated River Basin Management Project (AIRBMP – Phase-I) funded by World Bank with an estimated cost of Rs. 400.22 Crores has been techno economically accepted by Advisory Committee of Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

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