

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 142

ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

EROSION BY GANGA RIVER

142. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problem of erosion caused by the river Ganga in the Murshidabad district of West Bengal causing huge loss of land and property leaving thousands homeless and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes for a permanent solution to the problem of erosion by Ganga in the Murshidabad district;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up an expert committee to recommend a permanent solution to the problem and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) Government of West Bengal has informed that around 1480 hectares of land in the adjoining areas of the river Ganga-Padma in the district of Murshidabad comprising Farakka, Samsergunj, Suti-I & II, Raghunathgunj-II, Lalgola, Bhawangola-II, Raninagar-II, Jalangi blocks and Dhuliyani Municipality have been eroded during the last 15 years.

(b) to (d) Erosion, movement and deposition of sediment in 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.

Farakka Barrage Project situated in Murshidabad district, a subordinate organization under Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, undertakes river bank protection works in its jurisdiction, as per the recommendation of Technical Advisory Committee of Farakka Barrage Project, in critical reaches for the safety and security of the barrage and its appurtenant structures.

As per the request of State Government of West Bengal, a Committee comprising members from the State Government of West Bengal and concerned Central Government Departments, under the chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission, has been constituted by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to undertake a joint detailed technical study for an integrated plan to combat the threat of erosion posed by Ganga-Padma river in the District of Malda, Murshidabad & Nadia in West Bengal.
