

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 638
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

WATER RESOURCES WORKS IN WEST BENGAL

638. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has carried out any water resources work in West Bengal during the last five years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the works carried out by the Government, district-wise; and
- (c) whether any new project is coming up in the State of West Bengal and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c) Water resources projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Role of Government of India is limited to being catalytic, providing technical support and, in some cases partial financial assistance in terms with the existing schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Central Government is implementing the ongoing National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM) Programme under the Central Sector Scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation (GWM&R) throughout the country including West Bengal. Under the NAQUIM programme, Aquifer Maps and Management Plans are being prepared and shared with the State agencies for sustainable management of groundwater resources. During the last 5 years, in West Bengal, Aquifer Maps and Management Plans have been prepared for an area of 36550 sq km. Under NAQUIM- Hugli, Haora, Kolkata, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, North 24 Parganas, Purba Medinipur and South 24 Parganas districts are covered.

Further, as a part of Ground Water exploration under the NAQUIM programme, CGWB has constructed 155 arsenic safe wells tapping the deeper arsenic safe zones in arsenic affected areas during last 5 years. Under construction of arsenic safe wells tapping the deeper arsenic safe zones in arsenic affected areas- Hugli, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas districts are covered.

Under the Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP) scheme, financial assistance was being provided to State Governments for taking up critical works related to river management, flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, flood proofing etc. in critical regions and restoration of damaged flood control/ management works. The scheme had a provision only for clearing the committed liabilities of ongoing and completed projects as per extant XI/ XII Plan guidelines and no new project to be included under FM component of FMBAP Scheme till then. The details central assistance released to State of West Bengal under Flood Management Programme (FMP) and River Management Activities & Works related to Border Areas (RMBA) components of FMBAP for period 2016-17 to 2020-21 is given at **Annexure-I**.

Under National Hydrology Project (NHP), with support from the World Bank, envisages establishing a system for timely and reliable water resources data acquisition, storage, collation and management across all States & UTs in India. The major objective of the project is to improve the extent, quality, and accessibility of water resources information, decision support system for floods and basin level resource assessment/planning and to strengthen the capacity of targeted water resources professionals and management institutions in India. The scheme is also being implemented in West Bengal, through Department of Water Resources Investigation & Development, Govt. of West Bengal (as West Bengal, Ground Water) and Irrigation and Waterways Department, Government of West Bengal (as West Bengal, Surface Water). The total allocations to both the departments are to the tune of Rs.156.20 crore over a period of 8 years ranging from 2016 to March, 2024. As on date, a total of Rs.19.557 crore has been released to the state.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.638 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.07.2021 REGARDING “WATER RESOURCES WORKS IN WEST BENGAL”**

The details central assistance released to State of West Bengal under FMP and RMBA components of FMBAP for period 2016-2021

(in Rs. crore)

Components of FMBAP	Project	District	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total
FMP Component	WB-16 Reconstruction, remodeling and improvement of embankments in Sunderban and adjoining areas in the districts of North and south 24 Parganas, damaged by severe cyclone, “AILA”.	North and south 24 Parganas	-	-	23.65	117.12	-	140.77
	WB-17 Drainage Scheme for Kaliaghai-Kapaleshwari-Baghai Basin in district Madinipur (WB).	Medinipur	-	8.09	-	-	-	8.09
	WB-18 Improvement of embankment and ancillary works in Kandi and other adjoining areas of district of Murshidabad	Murshidabad	12.61	56.94	-	-	-	69.55
RMBA Component	RMBA Project	Border Areas of Bangladesh in West Bengal	-	-	65.66	-	-	65.66
	Total		12.61	65.03	89.31	117.12	-	284.07
