

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *142

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2024

CONSTRUCTION OF EMBANKMENTS IN PUNJAB

*142. SMT. HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that the Government of Punjab has started to build embankments and strengthening them after the Meteorological Department's warning of heavy rainfall and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that heavy rainfall gushes water through thousands acres of paddy every year and such last minute rush repair of embankment amounts to only wastage of funds and corruption;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has allocated funds to the State of Punjab for making proper embankments to prevent rainwater flooding of the crops and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to make a policy to prevent this last minute repair of embankment causing damages and loss to the exchequer and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI C R PAATIL)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *142 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2024 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING “CONSTRUCTION OF EMBANKMENTS IN PUNJAB”

(a) Government of Punjab has informed that, no new embankments have been built in the State. Only the works of strengthening and raising have been taken up before the rainfall/ Monsoon. Such type of flood protection works are generally carried out every year.

(b) Government of Punjab has informed that no last minute rush repair works of embankments have been taken up by Water Resource Department, Punjab. Every year, the incidents of flooding due to heavy rainfall do not take place. One incident of heavy rainfall was reported in July 2023 and before this, flooding was reported in September 2019.

(c) 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. Flood management measures are broadly categorized as structural measures and non-structural measures. Integrated flood approach aims at adopting judicious mix of structural and non-structural measures to provide a reasonable degree of protection against flood damages at economic cost.

To strengthen the structural measures of flood management, Union Government had implemented Flood Management Programme (FMP) during XI & XII Plans for providing central assistance to States for works related to flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, etc. which subsequently continued as a component of "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme" (FMBAP) for the period from 2017-18 to 2020-21 and was further extended up to 2026 with limited outlay.

Under the FMP and River Management Activities & Works Related to Border Areas (RMBA) component of FMBAP scheme, upto March 2024, total central assistance of Rs 40.43 Crore and 26.16 Crore respectively has been released to the Government of Punjab

(d) No such policy is under consideration of the Government.
