

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5411  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005  
FLOOD CONTROL IN ORISSA  
Gamang Shri Giridhar

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Union Government and the Government of Orissa had undertaken any scientific studies to ascertain the reasons of floods in Mahanadi and other rivers; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the steps proposed to check the floods in the rivers?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) Flood management being within the purview of States, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

As per the information furnished by Government of Orissa, no scientific studies have been carried out by them. However, since 1954 the Central and State Governments have appointed a number of Committees to study and advise the policy matter for speedy implementation of flood control protection programme and also to examine the flood problem in general as well as in specific areas including Mahanadi river for evolving suitable remedial measures. The Rashtriya Barh Ayog (R.B.A.) which was constituted by Government of India in July 1976, to evolve a comprehensive approach to the problem of flood in the country had studied the problem of floods in the river in the country including Mahanadi river and made suggestions specific to Mahanadi river.

Rangachari Committee appointed by the Government of India to review the implementation of recommendation of RBA has also examined the option of a second single large dam on Mahanadi in downstream of Hirakud vis-a-vis series of small dams on its tributaries for controlling the floods in Mahanadi and recommended that a second large dam on Mahanadi is essential with adequate storage and flood control as prime objective. In addition to that it had also suggested that the existing embankments in the delta region must be strengthened as needed.