

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5583

ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005

DRAINAGE SYSTEM

Athawale Shri Ramdas;Pathak Shri Brajesh

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the heavy pressure on drainage system of States including Delhi;
- (b) whether this pressure causes water logging and flooding in Delhi;
- (c) if so, the areas of States including Delhi affected primarily by water logging during the last three years;
- (d) the main reasons for heavy pressure on drainage system; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to solve this problem?

**Answer**

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

(a) Drainage congestion & consequent water logging may be either due to surface flooding or rise in water table, as a result of excess inflow as compared to outflow which may be either on account of excess rain or over irrigation. Various agencies / committees / commissions have studied the problem of drainage congestion/ water logging and estimated / assessed the area liable to water logging in the country. The Irrigation Commission (1972) estimated the total area liable to water logging in the country as 4.84 m.ha. The National Commission on Agriculture (1976) estimated total water logged area as 6 million ha., out of which 3.4 million ha. is stated to be subject to flooding mostly in the State of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, U.P., Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala and rest of the area lies in irrigated areas mostly in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and U.P. The Ministry of Agriculture in 1984-85 reviewed the area suffering from drainage congestion and water logging and revised the estimate as 8.53 million ha. As per latest figures reported by the States including Delhi, total area prone to water logging/drainage congestion is 9 m.ha.

(b) The total geographical area of Delhi is 1,483 sq. km. The topography of Delhi is mostly flat. There is a big depression namely Najafgarh Jeel situated in south west of Delhi adjoining Haryana. The area receives drainage water from adjoining States of Rajasthan & Haryana for which the main outlet is the Najafgarh Drain outfalling into the

Yamuna river. Due to the rapid urbanization in Delhi and also drainage improvements being carried out in the adjoining States, the flow in the Najafgarh drain has been on the increase continuously. The drain is unable to discharge these flows rapidly, this, in turn has led to drainage congestion in the tributary drains and the adjoining areas. In the trans Yamuna colonies of Shahdra, there are certain low lying areas which are prone to drainage congestion during high stage in the Yamuna.

(c) State-wise area affected by floods during 2002-04 as received from respective State Revenue Authorities is at Annex - I. Information on area affected due to water logging is not available.

(d) Increase in population, urbanisation, reclamation of low lying areas /depressions, encroachment into flood plains, poor maintenance of drainage system are the main reasons of increasing pressure on drainage system.

(e) Flood Management being within the purview of States, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The role of Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

In view of the seriousness of the problem, the Government of India has approved in February,2004, Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely "Improvement of drainage in critical areas of the country" at an estimated cost of Rs. 54.57 crore for implementation during X Plan. Amount released to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa & Uttar Pradesh till 31st March,2004 was Rs. 9.50 crore.

Brahmaputra Board identified 34 drainage congested areas, out of which 24 are located in Brahmaputra valley, 8 in Barak valley & 2 in the state of Tripura out of those following have been taken up for execution by Brahmaputra Board :

- (i) Harang drainage development scheme
- (ii) Barbhang drainage development scheme

Government of NCT of Delhi has forwarded a proposal on "Delhi Water Supply and Sewerage Reform Project" to Ministry of Urban Development seeking World Bank Assistance in November, 2004. The proposal envisages to undertake various refurbishment of existing waste water collection, treatment and disposal system in Delhi.

The Task Force constituted by Ministry of Water Resources for flood management/erosion control in August, 2004 also addressed this matter and has identified scheme for drainage improvement in Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh for implementation in Xth and XIth Plan.

#### ANNEX-I

#### State wise Area affected by floods during 2002-04

Sl. No.	Name of State	Area affected in m.ha.	Area affected in m.ha.	Area affected in m.ha.
2002	2003	2004	2004	2004
1	2	3	3	3
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0.000	0.287	0.000
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	Neg	0.207	0.164
3	ASSAM	1.187	0.932	2.851
4	BIHAR	1.969	1.820	4.986
5	CHATTISGARH	Nil	0.074	
6	GUJARAT	0.000		0
7	GOA	Nil		Nil
8	HARYANA	0.000	Neg	0.000
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.000	0.033	Neg
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.000		
11	JARKHAND	Nil		
12	KARNATAKA	Nil	0.009	
13	KERALA	0.036		
14	MANIPUR	0.000		
15	MADHYA PRAADESH	0.002	0.126	0.000
16	MAHARASHTRA	0.391	0.037	Neg
17	MEGHALAYA	0.011	0.002	0.029
18	MIZORAM	0.000	0.000	0.000
19	NAGALAND	0.000	0.000	
20	ORISSA	0.000	0.478	
21	PUNJAB	0.074	0.000	Neg
22	RAJASTHAN	0.000	0.073	
23	SIKKIM	0.000	Neg	
24	TAMILNADU	1.280	Nil	
25	TRIPURA	0.012	0.006	
26	UTTAR PRADESH	0.111	2.355	
27	UTTARANCHAL	Nil	Nil	
28	WEST BENGAL	2.017	0.015	0.001
29	A & N ISLAND	Nil		
30	CHANDIGARH	0.000	0.000	
31	DAMAN & DIU	0.000		0.000
32	D & N HAVELI	0.000	0.049	0.000
33	DELHI	Nil	0.000	
34	LAKSHADWEEP	Nil	0.000	
35	PONDICHERRY	0.000	0.000	
Total		7.090	6.503	8.031