

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2871

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005

FLOOD CONTROL IN BIHAR

Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) was entrusted with the responsibility of furthering and promoting measures for control, conservation and utilization of water resources in the country in irrigation, hydropower generation, flood management and river conservation;

(b) if so, the extent to which CWC has met with the responsibilities in flood management in Bihar, connecting rivers, developed hydropower generation, conservation and utilization of water resources;

(c) whether Central Water Commission has failed to provide Ganga water to Delhi to tide over water scarcity; and

(d) if so the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) & (b) As per the resolution dated 21st April, 1951, the then Central Water and Power Commission was charged with the general responsibility of initiating, coordinating and furthering, in consultation with the State Governments concerned, schemes for the control, conservation and utilization of water resources, throughout the country, for purpose of flood control, irrigation, navigation and water-power generation. With the bifurcation of Central Water and Power Commission, in Central Water Commission and Central Electricity Authority in the year 1974, the responsibility of works related to water power generation rests with Central Electricity Authority. Specific schemes related to flood management in Ganga basin States including Bihar are examined and monitored by Ganga Flood Control Commission which was established in the year 1972. National Water Development Agency has been established in the year 1982 to take up the works related to feasibility studies for the identified links under National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development.

The subjects of water supply, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankment, water storage and water power are in the State List. The State Governments conceive, plan and implement water resources development schemes. Central Water Commission (CWC) provides technical assistance and guidance to the State Governments particularly in techno-economic evaluation of irrigation and multipurpose projects. Other important activities of Central Water Commission include maintenance of network of key hydrological observation sites and flood forecasting stations.

(c) & (d) The issue of providing Ganga water to Delhi is to be resolved between the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. However, CWC acts as facilitator. At present Government of Delhi is getting Ganga water for its Bhagirath Water Treatment Plant with installed capacity of 100 million gallons per day. Further, Government of Uttar Pradesh had conveyed its no objection in 1988 for reserving 300 cubic metre per second of water for supply from the Tehri Dam for meeting the needs of Delhi.