

Purchase of Hindi typewriters in M/o Water Resources

†4706. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the name of such Ministries/Departments under his Ministry which are not having a single Hindi typewriter so far;

(b) the reasons for not purchasing the Hindi typewriter so far and the officers responsible for such kind of negligence; and

(c) the actions to ensure that targets set in annual programme of Hindi by Rajbhasha Prabhag in respect of purchase of Hindi typewriters are properly complied with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All offices of the Ministry have been instructed not to purchase roman Typewriters till the percentage of Hindi Typewriters is fulfilled. Besides a copy of the annual programme drawn by Rajbhasha Prabhag is also circulated each year to all the organisations of this Ministry for compliance *inter-alia* concerning purchase of typewriters in accordance with the set targets. The check points have also been established in the Ministry and its attached/subordinate offices in this regard.

Devastation caused by floods in Assam

4707. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that almost every year there is substantial loss of life and property in Assam due to devastating floods in rivers;

(b) if so, whether Government have prepared any long term and short term schemes to overcome this natural calamity;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details of such measures/schemes prepared/undertaken during the last five years;

(d) the amount allocated and expended on these measures in each of the last five years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken for permanent solution of the problems being faced every year in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Brahmaputra Board has prepared Master Plans reflecting the indepth study of flood problem of Assam. The Master Plan—Part I is related to Main Stem of Brahmaputra and Master Plan—Part II to Barak and its tributaries. Both the Master Plans have been accepted by the Government of India and forwarded to the State Government for implementation. The Master Plans suggest both short term and long term measures.

Flood control works are being carried out by the respective State Governments from the State annual plan fund. The Centre renders assistance that is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. The State Government of Assam has undertaken the flood management works consisting of construction of embankment and drainage channel and town and village protection works. During the last 5 years a total nos. of 97 schemes have been cleared by the Central Government for implementation.



[9 May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) The amounts allocated and expenditure on these measures in the last five years under the Central and State Sector for Assam are as under:—

Rs. in crore.

Year	Central Sector		State Sector	
	Allocation of Fund Central Loan Assistance+ Grant in Aid	Expenditure	Allocation of fund State Plan	Expenditure
1995-96	25.00	25.00	23.76	21.11*
1996-97	10.09	10.09	19.92	18.11*
1997-98	18.00	18.00	19.92	19.90**
1998-99	18.00	18.00	20.27	20.27**
1999-2000	15.00	15.00	27.57	

*Actual

**Anticipated

(e) Some of the important recommendations of the Brahmaputra Board for permanent solution of the flood problem in Assam are as under:

- (i) Construction of Storage reservoir in the upper catchments of the tributaries of Brahmaputra river.
- (ii) Watershed Management and soil conservation to reduce silt flow in different rivers.
- (iii) Flood Plain Zoning; and
- (iv) River training works.

Rain water harvesting system

4708. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to steep decline in ground water in various parts