

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1377

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

DRAINAGE CENTRES

1377 SHRI VIVEK THAKUR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are only 5 drainage centres in the 13340 sq.km area of hilly river basin located in 7 districts of Bihar in which about 3-4 crore poor and marginal farmers are located;
- (b) whether 18 drainage centres have been shut in the past by the order of Public Works Department (Bihar) office letter no.2915,dated 10/09/1977, owing to which the drainage of flood water is not possible due to siltation;
- (c) whether any plan is proposed by Government for the construction of new drainage centre and cleaning the silt; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) As the subject matter of water, including drainage falls, under the State List of Seventh Schedule under Constitution of India, the information about specific number of drainage centres, if any, is maintained in the State Government. However, Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Bihar has informed that WRD, Bihar does not have any drainage centre and Road Construction Department (RCD, Bihar) has also informed that they have no information on this aspect.

(b) In view of (a) above and as the mentioned order pertain to the Public Works Department, Bihar, the information was sought from Government of Bihar. However, no such information has been made available from the Government of Bihar.

The Government of Bihar has further informed that as far as the issue of drainage of flood water in Bihar is concerned, the Water Resources Department of Government of Bihar has reported that 9.41 lakh hectare area is having drainage congestion in Bihar. Out of this, an area of 8.35 lakh hectare is in North Bihar and 1.06 lakh hectare area is in South Bihar. The Government of Bihar is working on drainage improvement and best economic use of water of group of seven Tals lying in Patna, Nalanda, Sheikhpura & Lakhisarai Districts of Bihar spread over 1.06 lakh hectare. Further, the area of 2.5 lakh hectare is economically unviable to reclaim, the area of 1.8 lakh hectare is already reclaimed from drainage problem and the balance area to be reclaimed is 5.11 lakh hectare.

(c) As far as Central Government is concerned, no such plan is proposed.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.