

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2896
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
SOIL EROSION
BRAHMANAND MANDAL;RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual estimated percentage of loss suffered in agricultural production due to soil erosion in the country; and
- (b) the measures contemplated by the Government to check the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

- (a) No systematic studies have been undertaken to assess the percentage of annual loss of agricultural production / foodgrain in the country on account of soil erosion.
- (b) To deal with the soil erosion / land degradation hazards created by water & wind erosion and other location – specific causative factors, the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing, a number of Centrally Sponsored Programmes under Macro Management of Agriculture i.e. (i) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Land in the Catchments of River Valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers (RVP&FPR), (ii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS), (iii) Scheme of Watershed Development for control of Shifting Cultivation areas (WDSC) in North Eastern India and (iv) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPR).