GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:28
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
LAND EROSION
Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problem of land erosion is on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the situation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Erosion in the banks/beds of the river is a natural phenomenon. The area affected/crop area affected by floods every year depends upon the peak discharge in the river and its duration and degree of protection provided by the Flood protection works. The average/maximum (year) area affected and crop area affected by flood since 1953 are given at Annex-I.

(c) Anti river erosion works are integral part of flood management works, which are planned and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical catalytic and promotional in nature.

Ganga & Brhmaputra basins are the severely flood affected regions in the country. The Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) constituted by Government of India in 1972 has prepared comprehensive plans for flood management for all 23 river systems of Ganga basin. Similarly, the Brahmaputra Board constituted in 1982 under an Act of Parliament has also prepared Master Plans for the Brahmaputra & Barak basins and sub basins there under. These plans were sent to the concerned State Governments for follow up action.

The Central Government is also providing financial assistance to the State Governments for taking up critical flood management and anti erosion works. In this connection, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to take up critical anti erosion works in the Ganga Basin States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal with an estimated cost of Rs. 178.85 crore (Central Share Rs. 136.17 crore) is presently under implementation. For taking up Critical Flood Control and Anti Erosion Works in Brahmaputra and Barak valley, a Centrally sponsored Scheme estimated to cost Rs. 166.68 crore (Central Share of Rs. 150 crore) has also been formulated.

Brahmaputra Board has also taken up critical anti erosion schemes in Dholla Hathighuli and Majuli Island in Assam.

Annex - I

STATEMENT SHOWING STATE-WISE AVERAGE/MAXIMUM AREA & CROP AREA AFFECTED DURING 1953 TO 2002

Sl. Nos	Name of State	Area affected in m.ha.			Crop area affected in m. ha.		
		Average	Max.	Year	Average	Max.	Year
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0.300	3.480	1989	0.211	1.675	1986
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0.006	0.119	1992	0.003	0.070	1993
3	ASSAM	0.893	3.820	1988	0.225	1.130	1988
4	BIHAR	1.350	4.260	1971	0.620	2.240	1987
5	GOA	0.000	Neg.	1974	0.000	Neg	1974
6	GUJARAT	0.313	2.250	1988	0.206	1.490	1988
7	HARYANA	0.168	1.000	1977	0.109	0.800	1977
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.077	0.476	1994	0.063	0.476	1994
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.028	0.514	1987	0.024	0.514	1987
10	KARNATAKA	0.049	0.900	1988	0.038	0.900	1988
11	KERALA	0.166	1.470	1989	0.059	0.578	1991
12	MADHYA PRAADESH	0.038	0.377	1994	0.020	0.377	1994
13	MAHARASHTRA	0.040	0.330	1989	0.036	0.330	1989
14	MANIPUR	0.012	0.080	1991	0.006	0.080	1991

15	MEGHALAYA	0.004	0.095	1987	0.004	0.095	1987
16	MIZORAM	0.108	0.541	1993	Neg.	0.003	1993
17	NAGALAND	0.000	0.009	1993	0.000	0.009	1993
18	ORISSA	0.447	1.400	1960	0.282	1.200	1982
19	PUNJAB	0.239	2.790	1988	0.162	2.790	1988
20	RAJASTHAN	0.295	3.260	1977	0.172	3.090	1977
21	SIKKIM	0.001	0.020	1983	0.001	0.020	1983
22	TAMILNADU	0.041	0.450	1961	0.032	0.330	1976
23	TRIPURA	0.027	0.330	1963	0.007	0.053	1993
24	UTTAR PRADESH	1.986	7.340	1978	1.105	5.200	1979
25	WEST BENGAL	0.818	3.080	1978	0.270	1.511	2000
26	A & N ISLAND	0.001	0.030	1988	0.001	0.030	1988
27	CHANDIGARH	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
28	D & N HAVELI	0.000	Neg.	1976	0.000	Neg.	1976
29	DAMAN & DIU	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
30	DELHI	0.009	0.070	1978	0.003	0.040	1978
31	LAKSHADWEEP	0.000	Neg.	1978	0.000	Neg.	1978
32	PONDICHERRY	0.002	0.050	1977	0.001	0.012	1991