

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2130
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
SOIL EROSION
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the constant soil erosion along the banks of various rivers in the country, particularly in tribal areas during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to control the erosion;
- (c) whether financial assistance has been provided to the States to prevent it during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (e) the manner in which the said funds were utilised by the States; and
- (f) the achievements made so far in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The soil erosion along the river banks during floods in the country is a natural phenomena and its magnitude varies from place to place and year to year. The flood management being a State subject, the schemes for erosion control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves, as per their priorities out of their State plan funds. However, in order to assist the State Governments in planning of flood management and erosion control measures, the Government of India has set up Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) in 1972 to address the flood and erosion problems in Ganga basin States and Brahmaputra Board in 1980 for addressing the river bank erosion problems in the North Eastern States.

(c) to (f) The Government of India is also providing central assistance to the State Governments including the tribal areas for erosion control for critical reaches. During the X Plan period (2004-07), the Government of India has provided Central Assistance to various State Governments for erosion control measures under central plan schemes; the year-wise details of which are given at Annex-I.

The State Governments have undertaken a number of schemes of erosion control in the respective states with central assistance. These schemes are being monitored and inspected regularly by the officers of Ganga Flood Control Commission and Central Water Commission in their respective jurisdiction to ensure that the central plan funds are utilized by the state governments only on the works for which the central assistance has been sanctioned.