

**Plan to check soil erosion along the Banks .
of Brahmaputra**

3025. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES
be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to prevent
soil erosion along the banks of Brahmaputra;
and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount
spent so far or proposed to be spent for the
purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-
SOURCE (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):
(a) and (b) Anti-erosion schemes on the river
Brahmaputra have been undertaken by the
Govt. of Assam since 1954 following the
historic erosion of Dibrugarh Town. Since
then, several major and minor anti-erosion
schemes have been undertaken along the 640
km. reach encompassing areas like Majuli,
Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Sonarighat, Mukalmua,
Gumi, Palasbari, Goal para, Mariahola, and
Hathala. The expenditure incurred upto March
1994 is about Rs. 484 crore. Execution of anti-
erosion schemes is a continuing process and
the schemes are executed depending on the
severity of erosion in a specific area and in
accordance with the resources available at the
disposal of the State Government.

Indians settled abroad

3026. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH
KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries in which Indians are
settled; and

(b) the steps taken to safeguard their
interests?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) There
would hardly be any country in the world
where at least some persons of Indian origin
may not be settled. As regards measures being
taken by the Government of India to safeguard
their interests we expect them to abide by the
rules, regulations and aspirations of the
country of their domicile. However, the
Government of India encourages them to also
maintain cordial links, specially in respect of
the cultural heritage of their mother country,
India.

(b) The Indian Missions abroad remain
fully committed to serve the interests of our
nationals in particular and of all the Indian
origin persons settled abroad in general.

Flood control in Assam

3027. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA
JICHKAR:
SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

Will the Minister of WATER
RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether flood management in Assam
was one of the major concerns for the Eighth
Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, apart from giving Rs. 25 crores to
the Assam Government what efforts have
Government made in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for
efficient flood management in Assam and
other States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-
SOURCE (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central loan assistance of Rs.
100 crore with moratorium toward recovery of
interest and loan charges during the last two
years of the 8th Plan has been released to the
Government of Assam. Further, for the year
1996-97, a grant of Rs. 25 crore has been
earmarked for reimbursement against executed
schemes out of which an advance of Rs. 5
crore has been released so far.

The Brahmaputra Board has prepared
Master Plans for Flood Management in
Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys. These Master
Plans have been sent to the Government of
Assam and the North-eastern States for
implementation of individual schemes by the
States as per their priorities.

बिहार की राढ़ सिंचाई परियोजना

3028. श्री ज्ञान रंजन: क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह
बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार सरकार ने रांची
जिले में राढ़ सिंचाई परियोजना का सर्वेक्षण कार्य पूरा
करने के बाद अपनी रिपोर्ट केंद्रीय जल आयोग को
स्वीकृति हेतु भेजी है;