Erosion of Soil by Ganga River in Bihar

†706. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the erosion of soil by Ganga river in Baksar and Bhojpur districts of Bihar;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the plan of Government to stop erosion of soil by Ganga river in Baksar city, Ahirouli and other villages;

(d) whether it is a fact that contractors are illegally supplying soil and sand from Ganga river around the village Ahirouli, as a result of which there is a strong apprehension of this village being engulfed by this river erosion; and

(e) if so, the plan of Government to ensure the stoppage of this erosion and also to take concrete steps regarding this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) Flood Management is within the purview of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been assisting the States in Flood Management. The Expert Committees constituted by the Government of India have looked into the problem of erosion in Baksar and Bhojpur districts in Bihar. On the basis of recommendations of these Committees, the bank protection works at Arjunpur, Majharaia, Keshopur in Baksar district and at village Neknamtola in Bhojpur district have been taken up with central assistance of Rs. 299.138 lakh (paid upto March, 2006). In addition, anti-erosion works with central assistance amounting to Rs. 427.935 lakh in the remaining reaches on right bank of river (in downstream of Baksar-Ganga Bridge) in district of Baksar and near village Barhara in district of Bhojpur have also been approved during November, 2006.

Construction of a Dam in Tibet

707. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China has been constructing a dam in Tibet to divert the flow of Brahmaputra river into Tibet and China in the pattern of river Beas Dam;

(b) if so, how far it shall have an adverse effect on India in all respects; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.