

[24 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

2. Flood Protection Scheme at Kamalpur under Salema Block in Tripura with an estimated cost of Rs. 6.27 crore.
3. Anti-Erosion work along Muhuri river for protection of Belonia town embankment and adjoining area near Bangladesh with an estimated cost of Rs. 6.40 crore.
4. Anti-Erosion Work along River Feni for protection of Sabroom town and adjoining areas (from Baishnabpur to Amlighat) near Bangladesh border with an estimated cost of Rs. 7.41 crore.

Wastage of river water

2236. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantum of river water that goes waste annually in the country;

(b) whether Government have deliberated on tapping this water locally for future use;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The average annual precipitation including snowfall is 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country and the average annual water availability of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. The utilisable water resources is assessed as 1122 BCM (690 BCM of surface water and 432 BCM of replenishable ground water). 605 BCM of water is being utilised for diverse purposes. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to rivers and seas.

(b) and (c) The water resources is presently being utilised for meeting the requirement for various purposes through development of surface as well as ground water. A number of surface and ground water schemes are under implementation and at various stages of planning & investigation. The Government also envisages schemes for rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge with a view to conserve more water. A pilot scheme for repair, renovation and restorations of water bodies has also been announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2004-05.

(d) Does not arise.