NOVEMBER 28, 1991

Written Answers 200

links has not been worked out as yet. Estimated cost for the links for which prefeasibility reports have been prepared by National Water Development Agency are as follows:

| (1) Mahanadi(Manibhadra)- Godavari(Dowlaiswaram) Link | Rs. 3616 Crores. |
|---|------------------|
| (2) Godavari(Polavaram)-Krishna(Vijayawada) Link | Rs. 1123 Crores. |
| (3) Godavari(Inchampalli)-Krishna(Pulichintala) Link | Rs. 2700 Crores. |

(c) No, Sir.

(d) At present there is no such proposal.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The concept of inter linking of rivers as envisaged in the National Perspectives of water resources development is for transfer of water from surplus to water short areas and will help in resolving water scarcity and flood inundation problems.

Retreival of Katchathivu Island from Sri Lanka

1241. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: SHRIDATTATRAYBANDARU: SHRI ANNA JOSHI: PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: SHRI V.S. VIDAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to hold talks with the Government of Sri Lanka on the issue of retrieval of Katchathivu island from Sri Lanka;

(b) if not, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has made any demand for the retrieval of the Island; (d) if so, the details thereof and the position taken by the Union Government thereon;

(e) whether the Union Government are aware of the increasing incidents of firing by Srl Lankan Navy of the Indian fishermen off the coast of Katchativu; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Government regard the delimitation of Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary through the Agreements of 1974-and 1976 as a settled matter.

(c) and (d). Tamil Nadu Chief Minister in her Independence Dayaddress on 15 August 1991 is reported to have called on the Centre to take action for the retrieval of Katchathivu from Sri Lanka.

In terms of the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976, the Island of Katchathivu iles on the Sri Lankan side of the International Boundary Line. There is no change in the Government's position in this regard.

(e) Yes

(f) All reported cases of hostile action by Sri lankan Navy against our fish ' men were taken up strongly by Government with Sri Lanka Government who have been asked to deal with it in a legal and humane manner.