

9. Leasing of land to M/s. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited for creation of storage facilities for Class "B" and "C" Liquid Chemicals.
10. Land has been leased to various parties at various major ports for creation of new storage facilities/warehouses.
11. Leasing of Transit Shed at Visakhapatnam Port to M/s. Tinnu Oils and Chemicals Limited, Bombay for setting up mechanical cargo handling facilities, etc.

Creation of Dry Dock, ship Repair Facilities and ship Breaking

12. Setting up a floating dry dock and ship repair facilities at Mormugao Port by M/s. Western Indian Shipyard Limited.
13. Setting up of ship repair facilities at Madras Port by M/s. Chowkhani International Limited.
14. Land allotted to M/s. Western India Maritime Division for setting up of Ship Breaking Yard.

Leasing of Equipment by Port from Private Sector

15. Container Handling equipment taken on lease by Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.
16. Container handling equipment at Bombay Port.
17. Hiring of Tugs at Visakhapatnam Port.

Capital Dredging From Funds Provided by Oil Companies

18. Capital Dredging at New Mangalore Port Trust funded by M/s. MRPL.

Creation of Fresh Berths

19. Creation of crude handling and POL product facilities for M/s. MRPL's Refinery at New Mangalore Port. Funding of project arranged by M/s. MRPL through SCICI.
20. Virtual jetty by IOC at Kandla.
21. Virtual jetty by HPCL at Kandla.
22. Approval to M/s. Reliance for construction of Asia Bulk Terminal off Goa Coast.
23. Liquid jetty at Kandla through IFFCO.
24. Creation of LPG facility at New Mangalore Port through HPCL.
25. Creation of off shore stackyard and berth (OSB) off Mormugao Coast.

Issues with Bangladesh

1488. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the bilateral issues pending for discussion with Bangladesh;

(b) whether he had discussed those issues during his last visit to Dhaka;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, issue-wise;

(d) whether any high level talks are proposed to be held to settle the bilateral issues pending since long; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The outstanding issues with Bangladesh pending for settlement include sharing of waters of the major common rivers, repatriation of Chakma refugees to Bangladesh, illegal immigration from Bangladesh, insurgency-related developments and further expansion of cultural commercial and economic cooperation including transport linkages. The Government remains committed to the maintenance of friendly and cooperative relations with Bangladesh.

(b) and (c). The External Affairs Minister visited Dhaka from September 6-9, 1996. All issues in our bilateral relations were discussed. To further promote Indo-Bangladesh trade, the External Affairs Minister, while in Dhaka, announced that the Government would grant fourteen categories of exports from Bangladesh 50% tariff concessions across the board. It was also decided to expedite action on demarcation of the land boundary and exchange of enclaves. On the Chakma issue, in response to an invitation conveyed by India, the Bangladesh side has conveyed that a high-powered delegation would visit Tripura to interact with the refugees and encourage them to return to their homes. The two sides have agreed to further strengthen cooperation in border management and to curb undesirable activities. A Joint Committee of Experts has been formed to look into the issue of sharing of Ganga waters and both sides have reiterated their intention of arriving at an agreement on a fair and equitable sharing before the onset of the next dry season.

(d) and (e). Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal is visiting Dhaka from November 27 to December 1, 1996. On behalf of the Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister, during his visit to Dhaka, has extended an invitation to the Bangladesh Prime Minister to visit India.

Crash of IAF Fighter Aircrafts

1489. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI PINAKI MISRA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a MIG aircraft of the IAF had crashed near Neraiti of Sonipur district, Assam in October 1996;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard:

(c) the details of each of the accident of MiG aircraft crash which took place so far in 1996, the reasons therefor in each case, the number of persons killed and injured, the compensation paid and the results of enquiries conducted in each case; and

(d) the follow up action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. On 17th October, 1996, a MiG-21 FL during a "Tail Chase" exercise had an engine flame-out near Tezpur and crashed.

(c) Since January, 1996, 17 accidents on MiG variant aircraft have occurred. The Courts of Inquiry revealed that the cause of these accidents were Technical Defects, Human Error and Bird Strike. Five pilots sustained fatal injuries and one pilot was seriously injured. Three civilians were also killed. An amount of Rs. 2,15,650 has been paid towards the compensation for damage to civil property and loss of life.

(d) To contain these accidents, air support and attack patterns have been reviewed, and the manufacturers are also being associated. Steps have also been taken by the Ministries of Agriculture and Urban Affairs and Employment and the concerned State Governments for modernisation of slaughter houses/ carcass utilisation centres and sanitisation of areas around the bird-prone airfields to reduce bird activity.

Sharing of Ganga Water with Bangladesh

1490. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Hasina to employ 'Bengali' factor to end water row" appearing in 'The Indian Express' New Delhi dated November 3, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the progress made so far to tackle the problem of sharing of Ganga water with Bangladesh;

(d) whether the Bangladesh Prime Minister is likely to visit Delhi sort out this problem;

(e) the stand of the Union Government on this aspect; and

(f) whether the West Bengal Chief Minister will also be associated with the talks and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Discussions with regard to the sharing of Ganga waters have been held with the Government of Bangladesh. The discussions are continuing.

(d) The Bangladesh Prime Minister has been invited to visit India but the dates for such visit have not yet been fixed.

(e) Government of India would continue efforts for working out a mutually acceptable solution.

(f) Representative from West Bengal would continue to be associated with the talks on Ganga water sharing.

Irrigation Borewells

1491. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh propose to take up 10,000 irrigation bore wells for the poor backward farmers;

(b) whether from this project 50,000 acre will be irrigated and 10,000 employment will be created;

(c) if so, whether means of finance was from NBCFDC term loan DRDA subsidy, State Margin Money of APBCCFC and beneficiaries contribution @ 53;

(d) whether clearance from the Union Government has been asked in this regard; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The question concerns State Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, as per information received from the State Government, it proposes to take up 10,000 irrigation borewells. Irrigation potential ranging from 30,000 to 50,000 acres will be created and seasonal employment for about 10,000 agricultural labourers will be generated.

(c) The scheme will be financed by NBCFDC term loan, DRDA subsidy, State Margin Money of APBCCFC and beneficiaries contribution will be @ 5%.

(d) and (e). Union Government clearance is not required. Approval has been accorded by National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi.

Public Record Policy

1492. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has not yet worked out any public record policy based on statutes;