

Control of Floods In Andhra Pradesh

[*English*]

1122. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had issued any instructions to the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding control of floods in the State, especially floods caused by Moosi river; and

(b) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh acted in accordance with those instructions?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The Government of India has issued Guidelines and Instructions to all the State Governments for the implementation of the recommendation of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog in September, 1981. Central Water Commission has also issued general guidelines for preparation of detailed Project Reports for Irrigation and Multipurpose Projects which include guidelines for flood control and drainage aspects. No flood control scheme in respect of Moosi River has been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. The State Governments are not required to submit the flood control scheme costing less than Rs. 100 lakhs individually to the Centre for techno-economic appraisal and investment clearance.

Solution of Bilateral Problems with Neighbouring Countries

1123. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the major developments in finding solution to bilateral problems with out neighbouring countries during the last one year;

(b) the important areas of agreement

reached with our neighbouring countries during the last one year;

(c) whether any talks are going to be held in the near future with the neighbouring countries for this purpose; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). We are continuing to accord the highest priority to strengthening our relations with our neighbours in South Asia on a bilateral basis as well as through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

We have welcomed the establishment of a democratically elected Government in Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Foreign Minister visited India in August 1991 at our invitation. Wide ranging discussions were held on bilateral issues and it was agreed that the two sides would seek to resolve them through dialogue.

The emergence of multi-party democracy in Nepal would further strengthen the unique closeness of our bilateral ties. We are looking forward to the formatting visit to India of the Prime Minister of Nepal which will be preceded by the meeting in New Delhi of the Indo-Nepal Joint Commission for promoting cooperation between the two countries in the areas of economic, trade, transit, industrial, multiple uses of water resources and other mutually agreed matters. During the then Prime Minister's visit to Nepal in February 1991, numerous steps for speedy intensification of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation were agreed upon including a high level task force to prepare a comprehensive programme of bilateral cooperation, which will be submitting its report very soon.

Our close relations and cooperation with Bhutan are being further consolidated and strengthened and this has been highlighted by the recent visits of the King of Bhutan. On these occasions detailed