

Works sanctioned for repairs on National Highways		Expenditure incurred	
1993-94	1994-95	1993-94	1994-95
5	4	16.24	15.87

...Rs. in lakhs..

**Raising of Bilateral Issue by
Prime Minister of Bangladesh at UN**

1083. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Bangladesh make take row over water to international fora" appearing in the 'Business Standard', New Delhi dated October 10, 1995;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Bangladesh Prime Minister raised some bilateral issues, including Farakka issue in her address to the Golden Jubilee Session of the UN recently;

(c) if so, the stand taken by India, particularly when the water issue between India and Bangladesh was not an international one and could be resolved through bilateral dialogue; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present so far as ongoing bilateral talks are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bangladesh Prime Minister raised the Farakka issue in her address to the special commemorative meeting of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

(c) The Government of India regards the Farakka issue as a matter for bilateral discussions and remains committed to a constructive bilateral dialogue for a long term, comprehensive and equitable arrangement on water sharing.

(d) During the visit of Foreign Secretary to Dhaka in June, 1995, it was agreed to reconvene the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC). Dates put forward by India in August, September and November, 1995 for holding the meeting of the JRC were not found convenient by the Bangladesh side. The Bangladesh authorities are now to propose dates for holding the meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission.

Propaganda by Pak News Paper

1084. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the propaganda launched by any Pakistani newspaper against India; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto and the steps taken/being taken to counter such propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Most of the Pakistani newspapers indulge in anti India propaganda. The Government of India has apprised foreign Governments; decision and opinion makers; and the international and Indian media about Pakistan's propaganda and its attempts to achieve its territorial ambitions in Jammu and Kashmir by sponsoring terrorism so that the falsehood being spread by newspapers in Pakistan are effectively countered.

Netaji's Ashes

1085. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his recent foreign tour he met Netaji's widow in Germany and held discussions with her in regard to return of Netaji's ashes to India;

(b) if so, outcome of the discussion;

(c) whether she has given her clearance for the return of ashes of Netaji from Japan; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The External Affairs Minister visited Augsburg in October 1995 and met the widow and daughter of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

(b) During discussions, EAM invited Prof. Anita Pfaff, daughter of Netaji to be a member of the National Committee to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Netaji. She accepted invitation.

(c) and (d). During discussions with the External Affairs Minister, daughter of Netaji conveyed her agreement for return of ashes of Netaji from Japan to India at a suitable time after due consultations with all parties concerned.

[Translation]

US Radars to Pakistan

1086. PROF. PREM DHUMAL:
SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitems captioned "America Pakistan ko Radar bhi Dega" published in "Navbharat Times" dated November 3, 1995;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Congress has adopted Sen. Hank Brown's amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill which provides, *inter alia*, for a waiver of the Pressler Amendment to enable the release to Pakistan of US \$ 368 million worth of advanced US military equipment embargoed since October 1990. After Presidential consent to the Bill, the US would be in a position to supply the proposed military equipment package to Pakistan consisting of P-3C maritime aircraft, Harpoon missiles, radars, M-198 howitzers, F-16 engine kits, night vision kits, etc.

(c) Government believe that the proposed transfer of advanced military equipment to a country which has always used such weaponry against India in the past, and which is in the forefront in training and directing international terrorism and financing such activities through narco-trafficking, will not promote peace, security and stability in South Asia. Pakistan's clandestine acquisition of nuclear weapons technology and materials as well as ballistic missiles from third countries, while receiving massive US military and economic aid, should also be noted in the context of the proposed transfer. The advanced military equipment offered to Pakistan contains a number of force multipliers and new items not part of current military holdings in the region and would have an adverse impact on India's security. Government are, therefore, determined to take all necessary measures to counter the adverse effect of the US military package to Pakistan.

[English]

Pollution Control in Thermal Power Plants

1087. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 40 of the 70 odd thermal plants in the country have not been complying with the emission standards laid down for pollution control by the Union Government and these plants have become a major cause of pollution; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pollution Control Systems for the Thermal Stations not meeting the environmental standards have been included in the on-going Renovation and Modernisation Programme. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is providing loan assistance for the implementation of Pollution Control devices on these Thermal Power Stations.

Out of these Eleven Thermal Power Stations are expected to meet the emission standard by the end of 1995.96.

Complete Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

1088. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister in his address to the United Nations on 24th October, 1995 had called upon the world body to take credible steps for complete elimination of all nuclear weapons within a stipulated time; and

(b) if so, the response of the other member countries thereto and the consensus reached on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A group of countries including India, Myanmar, Indonesia, Colombia, Egypt, Pakistan and Cuba tabled a resolution on "Nuclear Disarmament" in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly's 50th session which, *inter alia*, calls on the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc Committee on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations in early 1996 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons within a time bound framework. The resolution was adopted by 99 votes in favour, 39 against and 15 abstentions on 16 November.

[Translation]

Dual Policy of US Towards India

1089. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US is adopting dual policy towards India in regard to trade and security; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There is no single policy that can determine all aspects of a country's relations with another country. Each country determines what policy it wished to adopt in each of the areas over which it wished