

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) We have been engaged in an ongoing dialogue with the United States, since June 1998. The talks are being conducted on the basis of the comprehensive proposals that India has put forward on disarmament and non-proliferation matters comprising our unilateral moratorium on explosive nuclear tests, our willingness to discuss converting this moratorium into a de jure obligation, our offer to enter into negotiations on the FMCT and reaffirming our policy of stringent control on export of sensitive technologies.

The dialogue has resulted in some progress. India has conveyed across its security concerns as well as the need for India to maintain a minimum credible nuclear deterrent. US has shown a measure of understanding for India's concerns and requirements.

The talks have narrowed down to four issues which are mainly centered around the proposals which we had initially put forward. These issues are the CTBT, the FMCT, Export Controls and Defence Posture.

(c) and (d) Six rounds of talks have been held so far. In addition, an expert level meeting on export control issues from both countries, was held in New Delhi on 9-10 November, 1998, as a part of this dialogue. The meeting was regarded by both sides as helpful to continuing cooperation in this area.

Both sides have agreed to meet again in New Delhi in January 1999 to carry forward this process.

Bisalpur Dam

2764. SHRI DWARKA PRASAD BAIRWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked and spent so far on the Bisalpur Dam in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of compensation paid to those farmers whose land has been acquired for the construction of the dam;

(c) the number of farmers who have not been paid compensation till date;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide the compensation to remaining farmers expeditiously; and

(e) the time by which the compensation is likely to be paid to all remaining farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) An expenditure of Rs. 281.85 crores has been incurred on the project upto October, 1998, of which Rs. 19.54 crores was spent during the current year i.e. 1998-99 against an outlay of Rs. 56.20 crores.

(b) to (e) Acquisition of land and properties coming under submergence of Bisalpur Dam has been planned in four stages linked with the height of dam. Entire compensation has been paid under stage-I corresponding to submergence level of 304.50 metres.

Uplinking with Private TV Channels

2765. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance of policy of the Govt. to permit Indian Broadcasters to uplink with private TV Channels from India, any uplinking has since been taken place; and

(b) if so, the names of private foreign TV channels to whom such uplinking has been allowed and terms thereof and also indicate the guidelines adopted for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No foreign TV channels have been permitted to uplink from India as the existing policy does not permit uplinking by private foreign TV channels. Currently it is limited to only fully Indian owned private TV channels.

Improvement of Telecom Facilities

2766. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the telecommunications facilities in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa particularly in Rourkela district Sundergarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The steps proposed by the Government to improve the telecom facilities in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa are given below:—

- (i) Digitalisation of switching and transmission network.
- (ii) Providing STD/ISD on reliable media.
- (iii) Upgradation and rehabilitation of external plant network.
- (iv) Computerisation of Directory Enquiry, fault repair, billing services etc.
- (v) Introduction of wireless in local loop technology for providing telephone connection.

In Rourkela, the following steps are being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government.

- (i) 5 K C-DOT MAX (New technology) Exchange has been ordered.

(ii) Underground cable has been laid in the township as per requirement.

(iii) Optical Fibre Connectivity to all exchanges/RLUs has been provided.

Sardar Sarover Dam

2767. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that payment of share cost of the Sardar Sarovar dam is not being paid to the State Government of Gujarat by the participating States viz. Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts being made by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the arrears are likely to be paid to the State Government of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of share cost of the project to be paid to Gujarat by other participating States upto July, 1998 are as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

State	Amount Due	Amount Paid	Outstanding Dues (including disputed shares)	Outstanding Dues (Excluding disputed shares)
Madhya Pradesh	1079.34	583.77	495.57	278.49
Maharashtra	511.27	384.20	127.07	24.23
Rajasthan	317.64	73.95	243.69	205.40
Total	1908.25	1041.92	866.33	508.12

(c) and (d) The issue regarding payment of share costs of Sardar Sarovar Project to Government of Gujarat by other party States has been discussed in several

meetings of Narmada Control Authority and Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee and the States have been apprised of the need for immediate settlement