

Stage II Canal works during 1991-92 and Rs. 81.43 crores for the area development works.

(e) The project is being executed under the State Plan for which block loans and

grants are provided by the Central Government. However, liberal Central assistance has been extended from time to time for canal and area development work as below:

	<i>During VII Plan</i>	<i>1990-91</i> <i>(Rs. in Crores)</i>
- For Water Courses under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Command Area Development.	45.60	19.99
- For Canal Works		
(i) Advanced Plan Assistance	45.00	-
(ii) Border Area Development Grant	60.70	28.60
(iii) Drought relief Assistance	20.00	-
<b>Total Canal Works</b>	<b>125.70</b>	<b>28.60</b>

[English]

**Talks with Bangladesh on Bilateral Issues**

1333. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:  
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:  
SHRI YASHWANTRAOPATIL:  
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of talks held on bilateral issues of repatriation of Chakma refugees, Tin Bigha and sharing of Ganga waters during the recent visit of the Bangladesh Foreign Minister to India; and

(b) the followup action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The outcome of talks held on the bilateral issues

(referred to in the question) during the recent visit of the Bangladesh Foreign Minister to India and the follow-up action thereon are indicated below:

- (i) Regarding the question of Chakma refugees, we hope that following recent discussions the Bangladesh Government will take necessary and effective measures which would give the refugees the confidence to return to their homes in Chakma Hill Tracts voluntarily and at the earliest.
- (ii) On Tin Bigha, steps are being taken to implement the lease as soon as possible.
- (iii) On the sharing of Ganga waters, Secretary level talks were held in New Delhi in October, 1991 and there is likely to be a meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission at the Ministerial level in the near future.