GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEFENCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:882 ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000 DIVERSION OF RAVI WATER TO INDIAN SIDE BY PAK SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has recently constructed an embankment on the river Ravi which is likely to divert the river to the Indian side;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the position of Indian Army on the Indo-Pak border;
- (c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Pakistan Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TQt) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 882 FC 23.11.2000

Pakistan has constructed a number of embankments along Ravi river, on their side, as flood control measures, adjoining our Amritsar/Gurdaspur districts. Though there is no major diversion of the river, the construction of embankments by Pakistan has the effect of diverting the flow of the river water towards India which could cause damage to our Border Out-Posts and defensive bunds/embankments in case of heavy floods.

A Committee of Remedial Works for Flood Protection Embankmentson River Ravi and Sutlejalong India-Pak Border has been formed by the Government to counter the effect of works done by Pakistan. In addition to the protective works undertaken by the Government of Punjab from its own resources, the Union Government is also providing financial assistance to the Government of Punjab for undertaking protective works as per the recommendation of the Committee.